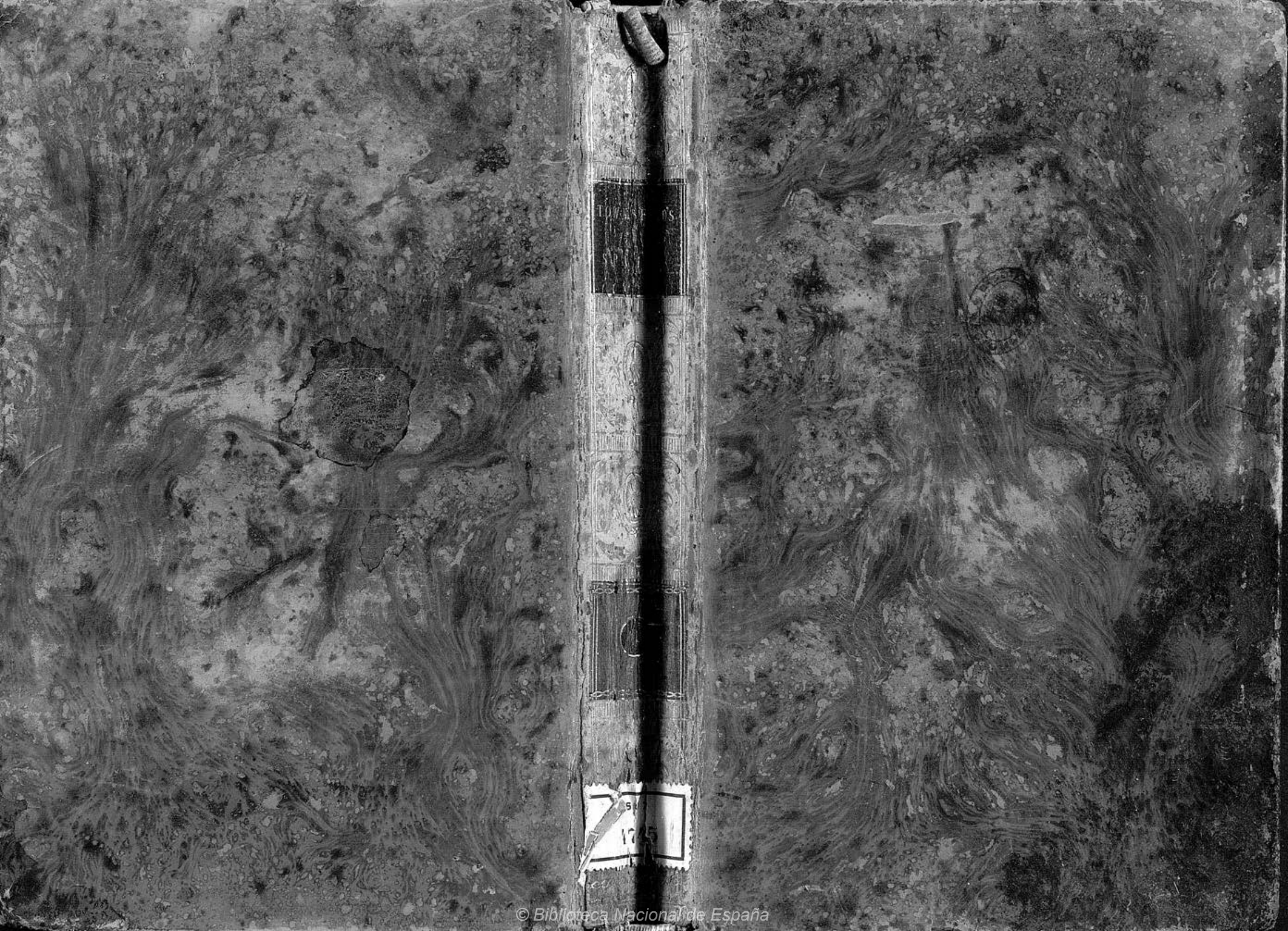
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A

JOURNEY

THROUGH

SPAIN

IN THE YEARS 1786 AND 1787;

WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION

TO THE

AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, POPULATION, TAXES, AND REVENUE

OF THAT COUNTRY;

AND

REMARKS

IN PASSING THROUGH

A PART OF FRANCE.

BY JOSEPH TOWNSEND, A. M.
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JOURNEY

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JOURNEY

THROUGH

THE ASTURIAS.

OVIEDO, the capital of the Aſturias, ſtands near the conflux of two little rivers, which pour their water into the Bay of Biſcay, at Villavicioſa. It was built by Froila, or Fruela, the ſon of Alfonſo I. ſurnamed El Catolico, and made the ſeat of his dominion. This city contains one thouſand five hundred and ſixty families, and has five thouſand eight hundred and ninety-five communicants, beſides children under ten years of age, who are computed to be about one thouſand ſix hundred; ſo that the whole population being ſeven thouſand four hundred and ninety-five, they are not five to a family. It has four pariſh churches, eight chapels, ſix convents, and a ſufficient number of prieſts, with a biſhop, his auxiliary, and thirty-ſix canons. The

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biſhopric is worth ſixty thouſand ducats, and the chapter is reckoned eighty thouſand; the former being equal to £. 6,591. 15*s.* 11½*d.* and the latter £.8,789. 1*s.* 3*d.* per annum.

The family where I took up my abode, was that of the auxiliary biſhop. He is more than ſix feet two inches high, very ſtout, remarkably well made, handſome, youthful in his appearance, cheerful, active, and conſiderably more than threeſcore years of age. His manner is eaſy, and his converſation lively. The title given to him is, Moſt Illuſtrious; and upon the firſt approach to him, you bend the knee, and kiſs his ring, having previouſly received his benediction, ſignified by croſſing with his right hand.

His palace is far from elegant, yet by no means uncomfortable. You enter by the coach-houſe, and from thence paſs through a door into the ſtable, or up the ſtair-caſe to the dwelling, which is over theſe. When aſcended, you go through a kind of gallery, or lobby, to the biſhop's apartments, conſiſting of a drawing-room of about thirty by eighteen, a little ſtudy, and a correſponding

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ſponding bed-room. The dining-room is about twenty-four by twenty-two, and not far from it is the little kitchen, with a few bed-rooms in the intermediate ſpace. The whole has white walls, and ill-jointed floors. The chairs and the long table are of oak.

If the palace itſelf is plain; the ſtile of living is ſtill more remarkable for its ſimplicity: enough for comfort, although little for luxury, and leſs for oſtentation. Our dinner commonly conſiſted of a ſopa, or bread ſtewed in broth, followed by an olla, compoſed of beef and mutton, a bit of bacon, and ſome ſauſages, with garvanzos, or large Spaniſh peas (cicer arietinum). At other tables they add veal and fowls. This was ſucceeded by ſome kind of roaſt meat, or game; and fiſh, in ſome ſhape or other, brought up the rear. Every morning and evening, inſtead of tea, chocolate, with Naples biſcuits, was handed round.

The good biſhop filled up his mornings with the duties and functions of his office; after dinner he took his ſieſta; then either rode or walked; and in the evenings converſed with his friends, who aſſembled round him. His family conſiſted of his

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chaplain, his ſecretary, and two pages; beſides theſe, his nephew, who is one of the canons, lived with him, and his great nephew, my travelling companion, was occaſionally there. The pages wait at his table, and attend him when he goes from home. The remainder of their time is occupied with ſtudies, and when qualified, they riſe into the prieſthood, and, admitted to the table, become companions, till a living offers to which the biſhop can preſent them. The *padre cura*, that is, the rector of S. Andres de Aguera, had been one of theſe, and whilſt I was at Oviedo, an amiable young page was ordained prieſt, ſaid his firſt maſs, and ſat down with us at table.

Having been recommended by count Campomanes to the intendant, I ſometimes, with the canon, frequented his *tertulla*, or evening aſſembly, where I never failed to meet the count de Peñalba, a friend of Campomanes. Here I found two apartments, one for cards, the other for converſation; both neat; the former ſpacious and well proportioned. The company aſſembled in the card room was numerous; their game was lottery, a game requiring neither judg-

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judgment nor memory; but the room for converſation was deſerted. The count indeed was ſo polite as to quit the card-table; but as I felt that I had no right to expect ſuch a ſacrifice, I ſtaid only a ſhort time, and then either tormented the biſhop, who was no Frenchman, with my miſerable Spaniſh, or, when I thought that I had ſufficiently treſpaſſed on his goodneſs, I retired to my room.

A few days after my arrival, I was preſent at a grand proceſſion of the biſhop, with his canons, attended by the principal inhabitants, carrying torches, and preceded by the aſhes of Santa Eulalia, to implore rain from heaven. But this patroneſs of the dioceſe, deaf to their petitions, would not intercede for one refreſhing ſhower, and in conſequence the maize was ſcorched up, and produced but little grain. Being at the time in bloſſom, it required daily ſhowers to prevent the blight.

From the frequency of proceſſions, the conſumption of wax becomes conſiderable in every part of Spain, more eſpecially where the country is not watered, either by rivers or by the noria. But I am inclined

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to think, that the ſame expence, if properly applied, would in moſt places ſecure a never failing ſupply of water, and pay good intereſt for the capital employed. Government is ſenſible of this, and with a view to watering, as well as to navigation, encourages the canals, not as with us, by leaving this moſt important work to private adventurers, but as a national concern, at the national expence.

After the proceſſion, I went to viſit the *Hoſpicio*, or general work-houſe, and found the numbers confined to be, men, ſixty-five; boys, fifty-five; women, ninety; girls, ſeventy; not including infants out at nurſe. The houſe is large and commodious, conſiſting of four ſpacious quadrangles, three ſtories high, and perfectly well fitted up, with comfortable work-rooms and dormitories. Some of theſe I found two hundred and fifty feet in length, lofty and wide. To ſupport this eſtabliſhment, the funds are thirty thouſand ducats annually, ariſing from licences to ſell brandy in the Aſturias; three thouſand from rents of land; and ſome other emoluments; being together equal to four thouſand pounds ſterling, beſides the pro-

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produce of their labour, which is ſtated at three thouſand reales, or thirty pounds per annum, including what they make for their own conſumption. Among the two hundred and eighty perſons ſhut up in this hoſpicio, I ſaw no cripples, ſo that their labour may be fairly reckoned at two ſhillings and three halfpence each per annum. The expence of every pauper to the public is not ſo eaſily calculated, becauſe they receive all deſerted children. Here the mother has nothing to do but to put the child into the cradle, ring the bell, and then retire.

Beſides this refuge for the poor, and for their children, the biſhop cauſes ſeventy reales to be diſtributed every morning at his gates, giving either a quarto or an ochavo to all who come, and weekly penſions both to widows and to orphans. In addition to all this, the canons ſcatter their alms plentifully as they walk the ſtreets; and the ſix convents adminiſter bread and broth at noon, more eſpecially the Benedictines, who, as the moſt wealthy, are moſt liberal in their donations. When ſick, the poor have a commodious hoſpital always ready to receive them.

 Notwith-

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Notwithſtanding all that has been done, and what more, in the way of charity, can be deviſed? beggars, clothed in rags, and covered with vermin, ſwarm in every ſtreet. Is it not therefore evident, that they have done too much, increaſing both the numbers and the diſtreſſes of the poor by the very means, which have been employed to relieve their wants.

What incitement can we here find to induſtry? for, who will dig a well when he may draw water from the fountain? Is he hungry? the monaſteries will feed him. Is he ſick? an hoſpital ſtands open to receive him. Has he children? he need not labour to ſupport them; they are well provided for without his care. Is he too lazy to go in ſearch of food? he need only retire to the hoſpicio.

Dry up the fountain, and every man will inſtantly begin to dig a well; burn the hoſpicio, or diſſipate its funds; give no relief but as a reward, that it may prove a ſtimulus to induſtry, and although at firſt the diſtreſs will be increaſed, and the population will be diminiſhed, yet, as the fruit of that induſtry, which can ſpring only from

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from diſtreſs, the population will afterwards advance in a conſtant and regular progreſſion; wealth will be diffuſed; and diſtreſs will be confined to the cottage of the ſlothful.

I was exceedingly pleaſed with the anſwer of the biſhop, when I one day took the liberty to aſk him, if he did not think he was doing harm by the diſtribution of alms. "Moſt undoubtedly," ſaid he; "but "then it is the part of the magiſtrate to "clear the ſtreets of beggars; it is my "duty to give alms to all that aſk."

Among the widows penſioned by the biſhop, were many who had lived in affluence whilſt they had huſbands. Theſe were the widows of lawyers, who are numerous, and ſpend all their gains.

I went afterwards with don Antonio Durand, and don Franciſco Roca, to viſit the hoſpital, of which the former is phyſician, the latter ſurgeon. The moſt remarkable caſes were, tertians, dropſies, and a diſeaſe peculiar to this province, called *Mal de la Roſa*.

The tertians were only remarkable, as yielding to the lancet, followed by emetics, cathartics,

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cathartics, and the bark. Perhaps the latter were the really efficacious remedies, and all the merit of the former might be merely negative. The dropſies were ſoon cured by cathartics, and abſtinence from drink, allowing no liquid but half a pint of wine in twenty-four hours.

The *Mal de Roſa* has been conſidered as a ſpecies of the leproſy; but to me it appears to have no affinity with that diſeaſe. It attacks the back of the hands, the inſteps, and the neck, where it deſcends the ſternum, almoſt to the cartilago ziphoides, but the reſt of the body is free. At firſt it appears red, accompanied with pain and heat, but ends in ſcurf. In the progreſs of this diſeaſe, vertigo and delirium ſucceed, with foul tongue, laſſitude, chillineſs, tears, and, according to the teſtimony of Dr. Durand, a peculiar propenſity to drown themſelves. It goes away in ſummer, and returns in ſpring. The diſeaſe may be cured by nitre and gentle cathartics; but, if neglected, it terminates in ſcrophula, maraſma, melancholy, and madneſs.

At Oviedo, as in moſt of the great towns in Spain, an hoſpital for the lues is opened

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three times in the year, to receive as many as the hoſpital will hold; but the ſurgeons all over the peninſula complain that patients are tardy in their application. This may ariſe either from the violence of their treatment, or from the mildneſs of the ſymptoms; but whatever cauſe may be aſſigned, the conſequence is, the univerſal prevalence of that complaint.

The diſeaſes which ſeem to be endemical in the Aſturias, are, intermittents, dropſies, hyſteria, hypochondriaſis, ſcrophula, bronchocele, glandular obſtructions, cachexies, ſcurvy, leproſy, madneſs, epilepſy, attended with worms, apoplexy, and palſy, rheumatiſm, phthiſis, and eriſipelas, with the mal de roſa, and the ſarna, or the itch.

For the leproſy they have in the Aſturias twenty hoſpitals, called *Lazaros*. It appears in various forms. Some patients are covered over with a white dry ſcurf, and look like millers; in others the ſkin is almoſt black, very thick, full of wrinkles, unctuous, and covered with a loathſome cruſt; others have one leg and thigh enormouſly ſwelled, and full of varices, puſtules, and

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and ulcers, ſending forth a moſt abominable ſmell. All complain of heat, with moſt intolerable itching. Some patients, inſtead of the great leg, have a moſt enormous ſwelling of one hand, more eſpecially the female ſubjects, or elſe have the features of the face ſwoln to ſuch a degree, as hardly to retain the human form; others again have carbuncles, big as hazle nuts, all over the ſurface of their body.

The common itch (ſcabies) is little leſs diſguſting than the leproſy, thus tranſiently deſcribed. It uſually attacks the heads of children, and is attended with ulcers of the fouleſt nature, itching intolerable, and lice innumerable. It is commonly preceded by horripilation and a frebricula, which terminate in the expulſion of numerous little pimples like the ſmall pox. Theſe, in healthy ſubjects, are large, pointed, red, quickly ſuppurating; but at the end of nine or ten months they go away. Bad ſubjects have this diſeaſe for life. The females are more expoſed to it than males.

Agues, fevers, and even pleuriſies, are ſaid often to terminate in ſcabies, and this frequently gives place to them, returning however

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however when the fever ceaſes. In adults it takes poſſeſſion of the hands and arms, with the legs and thighs; covering them with a filthy cruſt. In wet weather the itching becomes more troubleſome, and towards midnight is inſupportable. The patients, who labour under this diſeaſe, breed ſirones, a kind of vermin exceedingly minute, yet viſible without the aſſiſtance of a lens, which form channels between the cuticle and the ſkin.

The prediſpoſing cauſe of all theſe diſeaſes may be ſought for in humidity, ariſing from the peculiar ſituation of this province. This hilly country, bounded on the north by the Bay of Biſcay, and to the ſouth by ſnowy mountains, is always temperate, and generally moiſt. The N. E. wind indeed is dry, attended with a bright ſky, and with a bracing air, but with every other wind the ſun is obſcured by clouds. The north wind always produces the moſt dreadful tempeſts, and the N. W. is little better; both bring rain in ſummer, and the weſt wind comes loaded at all times with moiſture from the Atlantic Ocean. In May, June, and July, they ſeldom ſee the ſun; but

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but then, to balance this, in Auguſt and September they as ſeldom ſee a cloud. The coaſt is temperate, and comparatively free from rain; but ſuch is the moiſture of the hills, that no care is ſufficient to preſerve their fruits, their grain, their inſtruments of iron, from mould, from rot, from ruſt. Both the acetous and the putrid fermentation here make a rapid progreſs.

Beſides the relaxing humidity of the climate, the common food of the inhabitants contributes much to the prevalence of moſt diſeaſes, which infeſt this principality. They eat little fleſh; they drink little wine. Their uſual diet is Indian corn, with beans, peas, cheſnuts, apples, pears, melons, and cucumbers; and even their bread, made of Indian corn, has neither barm nor leaven, but is unfermented, and in the ſtate of dough. Their drink is water.

This account, collected from gentlemen of the profeſſion, is confirmed in the valuable work of don Gaſpar Caſſal, an old phyſician, of more than common obſervation and experience, who has given to the public a natural hiſtory of the Aſturias.

Although

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Although ſubject to ſuch a variety of endemical diſeaſes, few countries can produce more examples of longevity. Many live to the age of a hundred, ſome to a hundred and ten, and others much longer. The ſame obſervation may be extended to Gallicia, where, in the pariſh of S. Juan de Poyo, A. D. 1724, the curate adminiſtered the ſacrament to thirteen perſons, whoſe ages together made one thouſand four hundred and ninety-nine, the youngeſt of theſe being one hundred and ten, and the oldeſt one hundred and twenty-ſeven. But in Villa de Foſiñanes, one Juan de Outeyro, a poor labourer, died in the year 1726, aged more than one hundred and forty-ſix years.

When we conſider the temperature of the climate, ariſing from its humidity, together with the cooling winds from the Atlantic, and from the ſnowy mountains, we muſt naturally expect to find inſtances of protracted age, with the prevalence of chronical complaints, and of ſuch maladies as are ſeldom mortal: whereas in warmer and in drier climates, nature comes ſooner to maturity,

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is ſubject to more acute diſeaſes, and, like combuſtibles, when burning with a vivid flame, is rapidly conſumed.

The phyſician reported a caſe too ſingular to be eaſily forgotten: a young man, aged twenty-eight, complaining of a fever, was bled twice without relief; and having ſome ſymptoms which indicated a different treatment, they gave him a bitter purge, which brought from him, in one day, one hundred and ſeventy-three large worms, (the *teretes*). Five days after this he paſſed one hundred twenty-four, and the next day ſeventy-three, and died.

From the general hoſpital, I went with don Nicolas Trelles to viſit an hoſpital for pilgrims, of which he is chaplain and confeſſor. It is a miſerable building, with a wretched hall, and numerous cells, by way of bed-rooms. Here pilgrims from every quarter of the globe, who are going to proſtrate themſelves before the altar of S. Jago, in Gallicia, are received and lodged for three nights. When they arrive in Oviedo, they preſent themſelves before one particular altar, and receive every man ten

quartos.

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quartos. Should he chance to die here, he is buried with more pomp, than the firſt nobleman of the province, and is attended by all the canons to the grave.

The rage for pilgrimage is much abated; but there are people living, who remember when it was the faſhion for all young men of ſpirit, both in Italy and France, before they married, to go as pilgrims to S. Jago; and even now it is not uncommon to ſee ſtraggling ſome few old men, and many companies of young ones, purſuing the ſame route. We met twelve fine made fellows, who came from Navarre, ſinging the roſary, and haſtening towards the next convent, where they expected to lodge, and receive more money for the journey.

S. Jago, if I am not miſtaken, was the firſt who preached the goſpel to the Spaniards; but however this may be, their devotion ſprings from gratitude; and the reverence of all ſurrounding nations, who are acquainted with his military fame, is the juſt reward of his undaunted proweſs, when, mounted on a white horſe, he appeared in the air fighting againſt the infidels, and putting them to flight before

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Ramiro, at the battle of Simancas. (A. D. 927.)

The ſight of pilgrims naturally reminded me of relics, and excited a curioſity to viſit thoſe of the cathedral; and for that purpoſe I made application to the biſhop, who the next morning ſent his nephew, the canon, to ſhew me every thing moſt curious among their treaſures. Tradition ſays, but I do not undertake to vindicate the truth of its report, nor indeed would our good biſhop; tradition ſays, and our good biſhop, with becoming modeſty, conſiders it as poſſible, that when Coſroes, king of Perſia, pillaged Jeruſalem, God, by his omnipotence, tranſported a cheſt of incorruptible wood, made by the immediate followers of the apoſtles, and filled with relics, from Jeruſalem, by way of Africa, to Carthagena, Seville, and Toledo, and from thence, with the infant don Pelayo, to the ſacred mountain near to Oviedo, and finally to the cathedral church of San Salvador. Upon its being opened, by the command of the ſovereign Alonzo the Great, in the preſence of aſſembled prelates, they found portions of all the following articles: the Rod of Moſes; the

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Manna which fell from heaven; the Mantle of Elias; the Bones of the Holy Innocents; the Branch of Olive which Chriſt bore in his hand when he entered Jeruſalem; great part of the true Croſs; eight Thorns of his Crown; the Sanctiſſimo Sudario, or napkin ſtained with his blood; the Reed, which he bore by way of ſceptre; his Garment; his Sepulchre; the Milk of the Bleſſed Virgin; the Hood, which ſhe gave to S. Ildefonſo archbiſhop of Toledo; one of the three Crucifixes carved by Nicodemus; and a Croſs of the pureſt gold, made by angels in the cathedral.

" Whoſoever, called of God, ſhall viſit " theſe precious relics, ſhall obtain remiſ- " ſion of one-third of the puniſhment due " to his ſins, with indulgence for a thou- " ſand and four years, and ſix quarentines, " &c. &c." Thus at leaſt runs the promiſe, in the name of the pope, and by authority of the biſhop; yet I doubt much, if thus worded, the promiſe be agreeable to the faith of catholics. All their biſhops and men of learning, with whom I have

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had the honour to converſe, have ſolemnly aſſured me, that without repentance, and a firm belief in the atonement, no power upon earth can abſolve the guilty; and that the church claims no prerogative reſpecting indulgences, but that of remitting the puniſhment, which would otherwiſe be endured in purgatory by thoſe, who ſhall not have performed the penance appointed by the church for each particular offence. When they promiſe forty days indulgence, or as many forty days as ſhall make one thouſand and four years, they do not mean abſolutely days and years, as if endleſs duration could be divided into portions, to be meaſured by the rotation of the earth, for they hold ſucceſſion to be inconſiſtent with the idea of eternity; but they mean, if I underſtand them right, the remiſſion of ſuch a portion or quantity of puniſhment as ſhall be equal to forty days, or one thouſand and four years penance, ſhould their lives be protracted to ſuch a period as would allow them to perform the whole. When the points of difference between proteſtants and papiſts ſhall be fairly and diſtinctly ſtated,

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the ſubjects of diſpute will vaniſh, or at leaſt the contending parties will have the better chance of coming to agreement.

Some days after I had examined all theſe relics; the *Sanctiſſimo Sudario*, or ſacred napkin, on which the Redeemer, during his paſſion, impreſſed his image, was expoſed in the cathedral to eight or ten thouſand peaſants, collected from all the ſurrounding villages, moſt of whom had baſkets full of cakes and bread, which they elevated as high as poſſible the inſtant the curtain was withdrawn, in the full perſuaſion that theſe cakes, thus expoſed, would acquire virtue to cure or to alleviate all diſeaſes. Many lifted up their beads, and every one had ſomething or other to receive the divine energy, which he conceived to be conſtantly proceeding from the ſacred image of his Lord. After a few minutes, one of the canons drew the curtain, and the multitude retired.

The monaſteries in Oviedo are not highly intereſting; yet two of them excited my curioſity; both of them belonging to the Benedictine order. The firſt was of monks, whom I viſited for the ſake of father Feyjoo,

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whoſe fame has extended to the moſt diſtant nations. I went into his cell, and converſed with thoſe, who had reverenced him living. I examined the features of his buſt, but this having been taken when the clay was no longer animated, it was from his works alone that I could form any judgment of his mind. All who are converſant with theſe, will agree with me in thinking him, for general literature, the firſt writer of the Spaniſh nation.

The convent of the Benedictine nuns I viſited chiefly on account of their great wealth. They are only fifty, and their revenue is allowed to be twenty thouſand ducats, or £.2,197 5*s*. 3½*d*. a year. They invited us to tea. I went with the canon and my young friend to their parlour; and they aſſembled with the lady abbeſs at the grate. Their converſation was lively, and their behaviour perfectly eaſy. I ventured to ſolicit one of them to ſing; ſhe was young and handſome, genteel and delicate, and her countenance was highly intereſting; but when ſhe began to chaunt a portion of the litany, ſhe made me ſtart; for having long ſince forgotten all the ſongs of infancy,

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infancy, and being accuſtomed to ſing only in the choir, her voice was become harſh and grating on the ear. When we took our leave, they invited us to repeat our viſit; but my curioſity was ſatisfied, and my time was ſhort.

The building itſelf is worthy of attention for its vaſt extent, and for its elegance.

The perſon to whom I was chiefly recommended was the count of Peñalba, a man of good abilities, of gentle manners, and of uncommon information, for a nobleman of Spain.

I went with him to ſee the hot ſprings of *Rivera de Abajo*, at the diſtance of ſome miles from Oviedo. The ſituation is moſt enchanting, in a little valley every where ſhut in by lofty mountains, excepting only a ſmall outlet for the ſtream. The rock is limeſtone, and the waters reſemble thoſe of Bath, both in temperature and in taſte. The principal ſpring riſes from the rock, and is near two inches in diameter. The baths are ill contrived, and ſeparated by a cold paſſage from the dreſſing rooms.

The virtues of theſe waters have not been aſcertained, nor have they been analiſed;

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but the caſes, in which they have been chiefly recommended, are, rheumatiſm, palſy, jaundice, and ſterility; and for theſe they are in the higheſt eſtimation.

In the centre of the valley, on a little eminence, is a caſtle with round towers, called *San Juan de Priorio*; and near to it a church, moſt romantically placed, with a beautiful back ground of oaks and cheſnuts.

As we returned, we viſited a new manufacture of petroleum, eſtabliſhed near the city, according to a plan ſent from Paris by count d'Aranda, and which I underſtand to be the ſame with that invented by lord Dundonald. This will certainly become an object of importance, becauſe coal every where abounds in the Aſturias, although it has never yet been turned to profit, on account of its abominable ſmell, ariſing perhaps from the rock, between which it lies, and the ſulphur, with which it is impregnated. It is well known, that alcali and ſulphur form the liver of ſulphur, than which nothing is more offenſive to the noſtrils. Now the whole province abounds with marle, chalk, gypſum, piſolite or calcareous

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careous freeſtone, limeſtone, marble; and the rock, which confines the coal, is wholly calcareous. But ſhould they ever penetrate this ſtratum, and find the coal in ſchiſt, I have no doubt that their coal would ceaſe to be offenſive. At preſent they have not ſufficient encouragement to work theſe mines, becauſe the country abounds with wood, and the prejudice againſt coal is ſo ſtrong, that men, to whom the multitude look up, have not ſcrupled to attribute all the conſumptive diſeaſes of our iſland to the prevailing uſe of coal.

The limeſtone of this province every where abounds with foſſil ſhells.

To the weſt of Oviedo the ſoil is gypſeous, but they make no ſaltpetre, nor is there any ſign of nitrous earth.

The trees are, elm, aſh, poplars, and a ſpecies of the oak, called robles, an appellation perhaps derived from *robur*. In the low lands they get two crops in the year, taking after barley either maize or flax. Their wheat is very fine.

The ploughs about Oviedo are, without exception, the worſt I ever ſaw, and perhaps the worſt which the imagination can conceive.

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conceive. The coulter is fixed in a beam by itſelf, with two oxen and one man to work it. This goes firſt; then follows the plough in the ſame tract, with no iron excepting at the point of the ſhare. The handle is curved, to ſerve the purpoſe of ſheets, and has a mortice to receive the tenon of the beam, and itſelf is morticed into the tail of the ſhare. It has a retch to raiſe and to depreſs it. The whole is made in the moſt clumſy manner, and at beſt can only ſcratch the ground, which, being moſtly ſtrong land, requires to be well ploughed.

The harrows have no iron, and are only uſed for maize; the wheat and barley being always left unharrowed.

The cart wheel has no ſpokes, but conſiſts of a wooden ring or felloe, compoſed of four quadrants, and is biſected by a plank of about eight or ten inches wide, to receive the axis, which, being faſtened to the wheel, turns round with it, making what is called an axis in peritrocheo. Some of theſe, for heavy work, are bound with iron, and have ſpike nails with enormous heads. I had the curioſity to meaſure the axis, and found

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found it commonly more than eight inches diameter, but ſometimes ten; yet, I muſt confeſs, that I was not ſurpriſed at finding this quantity of friction overlooked in the Aſturias, having obſerved ſo little attention paid to it even in England, where, till within theſe few years, the large wooden axis was univerſal; and where, even in the preſent day, few farmers have adopted iron.

To ſet any matter in a proper light, it is often neceſſary to view it in the two oppoſite extremes. Now it muſt be evident, that were it poſſible to have the axis, of the ſame diameter with the circumference of the wheel; the friction would not be in the leaſt abated, but would, as may be proved, and has been proved by the moſt accurate experiments, be equal to one-third of the whole weight moving on a ſmooth ſurface. Were it poſſible to reduce the axis to a mathematical line, friction would altogether vaniſh. Having found the two extremes, the imagination readily ſeizes a general idea of the proportions which lie between them. Let us however examine theſe proportions with a more minute

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minute attention. It is evident, that in the former caſe, always ſuppoſing the plain to be horizontal, a power more than equal to one ton would be neceſſary to move three tons; whereas in the latter caſe, a fly would give motion to ten thouſand tons.

Stating the diameter of the wheels to be four feet, and that of the axis to be eight inches, which are the uſual dimenſions in the Aſturias, ſomething more than one ton would move eighteen tons; but, ſuppoſing the wheels to be five feet high, and the diameter of the axis to be two inches and an half, then ſomething more than one ton would ſet in motion ſeventy-two tons, the friction being always directly as the diameter of the axis, and inverſely as the diameter of the wheel. Here I muſt take occaſion to obſerve, that in point of friction, to diminiſh the axis will be found more adviſeable than to increaſe the diameter of the wheel, becauſe the friction will be in proportion to the diameter; whereas, the degree of ſtrength being given, the weight of the wheel will be nearly as the ſquare of the diameter. Whilſt the motion is horizontal on a plain, which is perfectly

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perfectly hard; wheels which are high, and conſequently heavy, will have no other diſadvantage than the ſuperior coſt, but on ſoft roads, and in moving either up hill or down, the weight of the wheels muſt not be overlooked, nor muſt the diameter be diſregarded. The weight in both caſes tells againſt the horſe; but, as to the diameter, a diſtinction muſt be made. Going up hill, in proportion as you elevate the axis above the horſes breaſt, ſo as for the line of draft to make an angle with the hill, in the ſame proportion you loſe power. The truth of this propoſition may be caught by moving in imagination the line of draft up and down in two oppoſite extremes. Elevate or depreſs it, till it becomes perpendicular; the whole force of the horſe will tell for nothing, and he will act only like a log of wood equal to him in weight. Let the line of draft make an angle of 45° with the plain, on which the waggon is aſcending, and one half of the force will be loſt. In like manner by the compoſition and reſolution of forces, the exact proportion of loſs may be aſcertained. In going down hill, the diminution of friction, which is directly

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as the diameter of the wheels, makes it needful to create new friction by chaining the wheels, or by a ſliding piece to prevent their rotation.

In the Aſturias, not ſatisfied with the quantity of friction ariſing from a wooden axis of eight inches diameter revolving without greaſe, they fix two wooden pins, which confine the axis in its place, ſo near together, that they bind hard againſt it; and this they do only for the ſake of the noiſe ariſing from the friction, and which, whilſt it appears to lull the oxen, and to incline both them and the driver to ſleep, as they move ſlowly on, is conſidered as exciting them to labour, and thereby precluding the neceſſity of either ſpeaking to them or pricking them with goads. This muſic, reſembling the ſound of a poſt-boy's horn, is heard from morning to night in every part of the Aſturias, and, when at a great diſtance, is not unpleaſant even to a ſtranger, but to the native peaſant it appears to be the never-failing ſource of calm enjoyment.

In this country oxen ſupply the place of horſes,

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horſes, and conſequently beef is cheap, being ſold for ten quarts the pound of twenty-four ounces, which is $1\frac{7}{8}$ penny for a pound of ſixteen ounces; mutton is fourteen quarts for the Aſturian pound, or $2\frac{5}{8}$ penny for ſixteen ounces, including the alcavala, millones, and arbitrio. The biſhop tells me, that within his memory proviſions were exactly half the preſent prices. Barley is twenty reales; maize or Indian corn, thirty; French beans, forty; wheat, from forty to fifty the fanega, which in the Aſturias differs little, as I apprehend, from one Engliſh buſhel and an half; wheat therefore is from 5*s*. 4*d*. to 6*s*. 8*d*. a buſhel, or about 6*s*. on the average.

Monday, *Auguſt* 21, I went with my young friend to pay a viſit for a few days to his father at *Aviles*, on the ſea coaſt, about five leagues from Oviedo.

The occaſion of this viſit was to be preſent at the feria, or church feaſt, which in catholic countries all over the world, and even among proteſtants in a degree, gives occaſion to much traffic, and is conſidered as a licentious ſeaſon.

The road was over the mountains. This they

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they are making at a vaſt expence, and in a moſt ſubſtantial manner, without the leaſt attention to economy, or to any thing but their own ideas of utility and beauty. For ſome miles near to Oviedo, and likewiſe near to Aviles, the road is made perfectly ſtraight, very wide, and rounded in the middle. The foundation is laid with large maſſes of limeſtone rock, covered with ſtones broken to a ſmaller ſize; and, to ſupport the arch, which they apprehend would ſpread like the arches of an edifice, ſuppoſing them to have no lateral ſupport, they abſolutely build two walls the whole extent of way. This certainly contributes much to beauty, but not in the leaſt to the principal purpoſe for which it is deſigned. The ſides of the road being planted with trees, makes it a delightful walk for the inhabitants.

The ambition of Spaniards, in aiming at perfection, is no where more viſible than near *Aviles*. The ancient road turned about two hundred yards, in order to avoid a low and ſwampy meadow; but now, at a vaſt expence, they are determined to have a ſtraight and ſpacious avenue of near three miles,

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miles, like thoſe of other cities. From Oviedo to Gijon, a little ſea-port to the eaſt of Aviles, they are making another road in the ſame ſtyle, and at ſimilar expence.

Aviles contains eight hundred families, with two pariſh churches, three convents, and two hoſpitals, of which one is for old women, the other for pilgrims going to San Jago. They have no manufactures, except of copper and braſs pans for the ſurrounding villages, and of ſome thread for their own conſumption.

Aviles is ſituated on the bank of a little river, about one league from the ſea, but within reach of the tide. It is every where ſurrounded by hills, which, for the moſt part, are fertile to their ſummits, and are either covered with flocks or ſhaded by the roble and the cheſnut; whilſt the low lands are loaded with luxuriant crops of wheat and maize.

The houſe of my young friend is one of the moſt commodious I have ſeen. After the faſhion of the country, it is built round a court, but with only half the uſual corridor; for commonly this runs all round the

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court, like that ſtill ſeen in ſome of our great old inns. In this houſe the gallery is wide, and open to the ſouth, and to the morning ſun. The ground floor is given up wholly to the ſervants, except one corner occupied by a chapel. The apartments are, a dining-room, a drawing-room; both ſpacious and lofty; one to the weſt, looking to the ſtreet, the other to the eaſt, commanding a lovely proſpect, which is bounded by the ſea; four principal bed-chambers, and others inferior. Of theſe, two only were ſingle bedded; the reſt contained, two, three, or upon occaſion, four beds; for in Spain, even in reſpectable families, three or four gentlemen will occaſionally occupy one room.

Cuſtom reconciles to this; and, by the practice of Scotland, France, and Spain, I ſee clearly that other nations can be reconciled to that which is moſt diſguſting to an Engliſhman; and certain it is, by what we ſee daily in our cottages of the poor peaſants, that our olfactory nerves may be reduced to ſuch a degree of torpid inſenſibility, as to be happy and contented in the midſt of filth and naſtineſs.

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In this reſpect, no nation can ſurpaſs the Spaniards; who, without diſguſt, without regard to decency, when lodging thus together in one room, conceal only by a napkin that, which the French ſhut up in boxes, and hide in the little cloſet, where they keep their clothes.

Upon occaſion of the church feaſt or feria, which, by the by, marks the origin of our word *Fair*, the concourſe of ſtrangers to Aviles is conſiderable, and every gentleman opens his houſe for the reception of his friends. At this ſeaſon the morning is ſpent in lounging about to view the ſhops, the cattle, and the people aſſembled in the fair; and the evening is cloſed by dancing. The balls are given by the principal perſon in the city, and ſuch is the ſimplicity, which reigns in this diſtant province, that the ſervants and peaſants are allowed to crowd about the entrance of the room to ſee the dance. The moſt favourite dances are the Engliſh, the minuet and the country dance; but ſometimes they dance the cotillion, and, towards the cloſe of the evening, the fandango.

Sunday, Auguſt 27, being the fourth day

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of the fair, and remarkably fine, the concourſe of people, with the multitude of cattle, was ſurpriſing, and the market was briſk. As proteſtants, we muſt be allowed to wonder at this practice.

Beef here is ſold for ſeven quarts and an half the pound of twenty-four ounces, and mutton eleven; bread, five quarts for the pound of twenty ounces; wheat, thirty-two reales the fanega, which weighs a quintal, and which, if ſuppoſed equal to the quintal of Catalonia, will be ninety-two pounds Engliſh; barley and maize, twenty-eight reales; beans, thirty-ſix.

It is ſtriking to obſerve how corn finds its level all over Europe, whilſt butchers meat, which is not of ſuch eaſy tranſport, varies exceedingly in price. Thus, at Aviles, beef is under three halfpence; mutton is $2\frac{1}{10}$ pence for a pound of ſixteen ounces, whilſt bread is $1\frac{1}{2}$ penny for the ſame weight.

No diſtinction in price is made between the prime pieces and the coarſe, nor between fat meat and lean, becauſe the prices are fixed by the magiſtrate, without reſpect to quality. The conſequence of this arrangement

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rangement is, that the meat is never ſo good as it might be, were the market free.

The government of this city is in two corregidors, four regidors, and a ſyndic, who is annually choſen by the people to inſpect the meat, to vindicate their rights, and take care upon all occaſions, that juſtice ſhall be done to them.

Whilſt I continued at Aviles, I diſcovered, for the firſt time, that the viſit is always to the lady; that the maſter of the family is perfectly at liberty to come or go; that there is no neceſſity to take notice of him; and that, if the daughter is handſomer than her mother, ſhe may, without offence, occupy the whole attention. This idea I found afterwards confirmed in the great metropolis, by ſeeing gentlemen introduced to ladies of the firſt faſhion, and viſiting them on the moſt familiar footing, without the leaſt acquaintance, or even perſonal knowledge, of their huſbands.

The ſcience and practice of medicine are at the loweſt ebb in Spain, but more eſpecially in the Aſturias. *Fiat veneſectio* is ſtill the favourite preſcription, notwithſtanding

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the ridicule of Le Sage, and the ſerious reaſoning of Feyjoo. When the fond huſband meets the phyſician in the ſtreet, and urges him to ſtep in to ſee his wife, *Sangrado* pulls out at once his liſt of patients and his watch, tells him that he can not ſtop one moment, orders him inſtantly to fetch the ſurgeon, and to have her blooded, promiſing faithfully to ſee her in the ſpace of half an hour. Palſies moſt undoubtedly are frequent, but it is by no means clear, that theſe are always cauſed by plethora, although in many caſes they certainly originate from fulneſs. *Sangrado* however has ſuch a dread of palſy, that he bleeds his patient into a dropſy, or leaves him to languiſh between life and death, a prey to the moſt gloomy of all diſeaſes, to which humanity is ſubject.

At the requeſt of the biſhop, I viſited a friend of his, an old canon, who was threatened with a palſy by his phyſicians. He had been twice blooded, and the queſtion was, whether he ſhould loſe more blood. I went to him immediately, and found him ſurrounded by his friends, who all ſtood looking on, expecting every moment to ſee the fatal ſtroke, whilſt he, ſitting in his great

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great arm chair, apparently in perfect health, yet with a gloomy and dejected countenance, ſeemed to be waiting for the awful moment, without one ray of hope to cheer his mind. Thoſe of his friends, who could be ſpared from buſineſs, continued with him; his neighbours dropped in to look upon him; but all continued ſilent, excepting ſuch of them as thought it needful to aſk him from time to time how he felt. No one entered into converſation with him, nor would they ſuffer him to look into a book. Notwithſtanding this repeated veneſection, his pulſe was remarkably full and ſtrong. He was of a certain age, lived well, and took no exerciſe. I could not heſitate what advice to give. At my requeſt the room was cleared; he adopted the vegetable diet, and took exerciſe. Thus by degrees his fears were diſſipated, and he returned once more to join the little circle of his friends in their innocent amuſements.

At the deſire of my friend at Aviles, I went to viſit a monk, who was related to the family, and found the good old man crying with agony of pain, ariſing from the ſtone. The phyſician ordered nothing but

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Madame Stevens Solvent; but this was too ſlow in its operation, and could give no preſent eaſe from pain. I ordered the *Enema Moliens*, by way of warm fomentation, to be uſed immediately, and to be repeated, if occaſion ſhould require; but the firſt application gave relief, and all the monks crowded round me to conſult, each for himſelf, what would be proper for his complaint. Among all thoſe, who came to me, I did not find one, who was not afflicted either with the ſtone, the gravel, or with the hypochondriacal diſeaſe. For this I could aſſign no other cauſe, but their inactive life, and the want of animating hope; both common to the cloiſtered tribe.

From the monks I was ſent for to a convent of nuns, where I was confirmed in my idea, that man is formed not only for ſocial life, for that is found in convents, but for domeſtic cares. Without a purſuit the mind muſt languiſh, and the health will ſuffer. The two nuns, whoſe friends had requeſted my advice, were hectic, and I am ſatisfied that others, who conſulted me, were running the ſame courſe. Nature certainly never intended them for nuns. Other conſidera-

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tions apart; the ſeverity of their diſcipline, their riſing at midnight from a warm bed to go into a cold chapel, is ill ſuited to the delicacy of the female ſex, and muſt be inevitable ruin to the tender conſtitution.

I was much pleaſed with the good ſenſe, and flattered by the confidence of the lady abbeſs. When ſhe was deſcribing a diſeaſed breaſt, and I had ſaid, " If this young " lady were my ſiſter, I ſhould deſire to ſee " the breaſt;" ſhe anſwered, " Every lady " is ſiſter to the phyſician who attends " her;" and immediately deſired the nun to go with me to a parlour. On examination I found it was a cancerous caſe, and recommended them to make application to a ſurgeon.

After having paſſed ten days very pleaſantly at Aviles, I went with the count Peñalba to ſtay as many at *Luanjo*, or, as we ſhould pronounce it, Luanco.

Luanjo has three hundred and ſeventy houſes, and one thouſand eight hundred ſouls, of which one thouſand three hundred go to confeſſion and communion, the other five hundred are infants. It is a little ſea port, and carries on a coaſting trade.

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The ride from Aviles to Luanjo is chiefly on the ſea coaſt. When we arrived, the ſun was ſet, and the evening was ſhut in.

The habitation of the count is maſſive, chiefly calculated for ſtrength, and to reſiſt the waves, which always waſh its ſolid baſe, and occaſionally breaking againſt the houſe, ſend their foaming ſpray over the lofty roof into the ſtreet. Whilſt I was there I was ſo fortunate as to be witneſs to this ſight. To enter the dwelling, you paſs through the coach-houſe, and find the ground floor given up to ſtables.

When we arrived, the great hall was already occupied, as uſual, by the neighbours, who were amuſing themſelves with cards; but, as we were under no obligation to join the party, which was not of the genteeleſt caſt, we went up ſtairs, and took poſſeſſion of a room which occaſionally ſerves for eating.

The family conſiſted of the count and counteſs, with their children, his two ſiſters, and her mother. His brother, a genteel young officer, was there upon a viſit. The family being thus numerous, and the greateſt portion of the houſe being occupied

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pied with offices, little remained for bed-rooms. Theſe were few in number, and upon a contracted ſcale. The room, in which I ſlept, was about eleven feet by fourteen, yet contained two beds, one for me, the other for the brother of the count. The walls are white limed, the floors are ſmoothed with the addice, but not one is plained, and I do not recollect one ceiling. The beds have no curtains, The great hall where we dined is a double cube of about fifty by five and twenty; with theſe dimenſions, if well fitted up, it would be elegant.

The ſtile of living reſembled the old Britiſh hoſpitality; and the long oak table, ſurrounded by ſtrong oak benches, was every day well covered.

I was at firſt ſurpriſed, and much diſguſted, with a ragged and half naked viſitor, who came up at dinner time, walked round the table, ſpoke freely to all the family, but in a manner to me quite unintelligible, ſat down occaſionally at the bottom of the table, and ſometimes ſeized a bone, then laughed and chattered like a baboon; yet,

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with all this, appeared to give no offence. Upon enquiry, I found that this miſerable object was the idiot of the village; and, as ſuch, enjoyed the privilege of going where he pleaſed, and of doing what he pleaſed, without reſtraint.

Nothing can exceed their ſimplicity of manners in this diſtant province. Poliſhed nations would be offended at their freedom, and the plainneſs with which they ſpeak of things, which in the more advanced ſtate of ſociety muſt not be even hinted at; yet ſuch language neither gives diſguſt, nor tends to excite the paſſions. But at the ſame time familiarities, ſuch as in other countries are eſteemed innocent, and, being rightly underſtood, neither imply nor lead to guilt, would here, and all over Spain, be highly offenſive; would, if practiſed in public, excite univerſal horror, if in private, level every fence which virtue is engaged to maintain.

They uſe no paint, no powder, no curls, no cap; nothing but a bit of riband bound round the head. In this ſimplicity of dreſs, youth and beauty may enjoy their triumph; but

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but the old women, for want of borrowed charms, have nothing which can pleaſe the eye. Yet gentlemen are not altogether void of attention to them, nor are they inſenſible to theſe attentions. A tradeſman of Luanjo had cut his little portion of tobacco, and had rolled it up carefully in a ſtrip of paper, making a cigar about the ſize of a gooſe quill; he had doubled back, and pinched carefully the ends; then with mature deliberation, taking up his ſteel, his flint, and his little bit of *amadou (boletus igniarius)* he ſtruck a light, kindled his cigar, began to ſmoke, and finding it work well, he preſented it to the counteſs. She bowed and took it, ſmoked it half out, and reſtored it to him again.

After the counteſs had done with the cigar, and had joined the converſation, in a few minutes ſhe opened her mouth, and ſent out a cloud of ſmoke. She ſaw my ſurpriſe, and aſked the cauſe of it. I told her; and immediately the perſon who was ſmoking drew in ſome hearty whiffs, then opened his mouth to convince me that nothing continued there, and after many minutes he breathed out volumes of ſmoke.

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ſmoke. This I find is their common mode of ſmoking; and without making it paſs through their lungs they think it uſeleſs.

The government of Luanjo is in a corregidor, aſſiſted by eight or ten regidors and two ſyndics, who are to protect the people from oppreſſion. Theſe magiſtrates once a year make a contract with the butcher, who will ſupply the market cheapeſt. In conſequence of this agreement, beef ſells for ſeven quarts; mutton, ten; bread, ſix per pound of twenty-four ounces. According to this, ſuppoſing the pound to be ſixteen ounces, beef will be $1\frac{5}{16}$ penny; mutton, $1\frac{7}{8}$; bread, $1\frac{1}{3}$ per pound.

Labour is from three to five reales a day, or, without fractions, from ſeven pence to a ſhilling.

The land in all this province is eſtimated by the *dia de buyes*, or quantity which a yoke of oxen is ſuppoſed to plough in one day: but this differs in every diſtrict. About Oviedo they reckon the dia de buyes at ſixty varas by thirty, or eighteen hundred ſquare varas; at Luanjo it is ſixty-four by ſorty-eight, or three thouſand and ſixty-

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ſixty-two; and about Gijon they call it ſeventy by thirty-five, or two thouſand four hundred and fifty varas ſquare; but in general the *dia de buyes* may be taken for about half an acre.

Near Luanjo the land produces, of wheat, ten for one upon the ſeed, and as it pays one fanega, or about ninety-two pound of wheat for every dia de buyes, we may reckon the rent at about ſixteen ſhillings the acre.

After ſpending a few days at Luanjo, we went to *Carrio*, another country-houſe belonging to the count, or rather to the counteſs, becauſe in Spain the property of the huſband, and of the wife are perfectly diſtinct. As long as ſhe lives no one can take it from her, and when ſhe dies, it paſſes to her children; or, ſuppoſing it to be entailed, it devolves immediately to her eldeſt ſon, who, at the age of twenty-one, or ſooner if he marries, takes poſſeſſion, even though his father ſhould be living. If ſhe has titles of honour, ſhe carries them with her to her huſband, and tranſmits them to her heir. Upon marriage, the huſband makes a declaration of the effects belonging

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belonging ſeverally to himſelf and to his wife; and her property is ſo much veſted in her, that, in caſe of her huſband's bankruptcy, his creditors have no power to touch it; but if at his death it is found that he has proſpered in the world, ſhe may claim her proportion of all the ſavings. The latter proviſion is unqueſtionably wiſe, but it may be imagined that the former muſt give much ſcope to fraud, and certainly it does; but then there are not wanting conſiderations to make men honeſt. A tradeſman of Oviedo, at marriage, gave in a falſe ſpecification, with a view to defraud his creditors, ſhould he unfortunately break. The wife died ſoon after, and her relations claimed all the effects of which he had delivered in his declaration, as her property; and he, who had been well to paſs previous to marriage, was left deſtitute, and could find no redreſs.

Carrio is a commodious habitation, neat and comfortable, but without higher pretenſions, ſituated in the midſt of a fertile country, near to a little river, and not far diſtant from the ſea. In the domeſtic chapel, the count ſhewed

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ſhewed me an altar, which is one ſolid block of marble, with the following inſcription:

Imp. Cæſari Auguſto Divi F.
Cos. 13. Imp. 20. Pont. M. 10.
Patr. Patriæ Trib. Pot. 32.

Sacrum.

This block was found at Cape Tauris, near the entrance into *Gijon* (Jixa of the Romans) and is mentioned, together with two others, diſcovered near to the ſame ſpot, by Mariana and Morales.

From Carrio we rode into *Gijon*, a conſiderable port, to which the Engliſh reſort for filberts and cheſnuts. It contains about eight hundred families. This harbour, made and maintained at a vaſt expence, is not reckoned ſafe; but there is no other in the vicinity, which can ſtand in competition with it.

We were entertained with great hoſpitality by Don Franciſco Paular Jove Llanos, a captain in the marine, who is retired from ſervice. An old officer in every country is a pleaſant companion, and in no country more ſo than in Spain. In this gentleman

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I found all that a foreigner can wiſh for, good ſenſe, politeneſs, and great information.

The next morning, we returned by Carrio to Luanjo; and, in the way, ſtopped in a beautiful meadow near *Candace*, to partake of a little fête champêtre.

At *Peran*, in this vicinity, in the limeſtone rock, I met with a rich variety of extraneous foſſils, of corals, corallines, and coralloides, with cockles, expoſed by the fretting of the waves; and, upon examination, I traced this ſtratum running up into the country much above the level of the ſea.

During my reſidence at Luanjo, the count ſhewed me a royal ordinance, dated 22d October 1785, ſtating, That the principal cauſe of the decay in agriculture was the unlimited power of the landlord to eject his tenants at the expiration of their leaſes; and appointing, that, from henceforth, in the Aſturias, the farmer, provided he cultivated well, and was not conſiderably behind hand with his payments, ſhould neither be ejected at the expiration of his term, nor have the rent raiſed; reſerving both to the

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the landlord and the tenant, an appeal to ſkilful perſons, who ſhould regulate the value of the farm, and give a compenſation to the occupier, on his quitting it, for any improvements made either by himſelf or by his anceſtors. This proviſion, moſt undoubtedly, is both wiſe and juſt; becauſe it not only ſtimulates the induſtry of the farmer, but encourages his parſimony, by ſhewing him where he can immediately make all his gains productive, and thereby promotes the higheſt improvement of the ſoil. But, as for wiſdom or juſtice in the former proviſion, I muſt freely confeſs, I can diſcover neither. Every thing is worth what it will fetch; and if men, who wiſh to find employment for their capitals, are willing to advance the rent, why ſhould not the landlord avail himſelf of this? In moſt countries, the ruling powers are too buſy, and will be meddling, when things would naturally, and without their interference, much better regulate themſelves.

September 11, I returned to Aviles, and the count went to ſpend a few days at another country-houſe, whither he preſſed

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me much to bear him company; but I had neither health nor ſpirits for this excurſion.

The reſemblance between the Aſturias and many parts of England is very ſtriking. The ſame is the aſpect of the country, as to verdure, incloſures, live hedges, hedge-rows, and woods; the ſame mixture of woodlands, arable and rich paſture; the ſame kind of trees, and crops, and fruit, and cattle.

Both ſuffer by humidity in winter, yet, from the ſame ſource, find an ample recompenſe in ſummer; and both enjoy a temperate climate, yet with this difference, that as to humidity and heat, the ſcale preponderates on the ſide of the Aſturias. In ſheltered ſpots, and not far diſtant from the ſea, they have olives, vines, and oranges.

The cyder of this country is not ſo good as ours; but I am not able to determine, whether the fault is wholly in the making, or whether there is not likewiſe ſome natural imperfection in the fruit. Certain it is, that they pay little attention to this article, neither ſuffering the apples to hang the proper time upon the trees, nor ſelect-

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ing the beſt kinds, nor leaving them to ſweat, nor picking out bad fruit, nor racking off the cyder when it is fine. The oppoſite of all this, both as to the liquor and the fruit, is the practice of our beſt cyder counties. Not contented with racking once, we draw it off three or four times, if needful, always obſerving to do this when the cyder is become fine. For this purpoſe, they, who are moſt curious, will even ſit up with it, when the time draws nigh, that they may ſeize the proper moment. If the Aſturians paid attention to this, their cyder would become a conſiderable article of export, and, together with their nuts, and other fruits, would bring great wealth into the country.—Yet, with the beſt information and the moſt minute attention, it is by no means certain, that they would ever be able to produce a liquor equal in ſtrength to that of our beſt counties, becauſe of the prevailing humidity; on account of which, every thing this principality produces is inferior in its quality to the productions of a warmer climate. The herbs here dry away to nothing; and the wood burnt upon the hearth, makes little or no aſhes, yet pro-

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duces ſo much ſoot, that the chimneys are perpetually choked. Such is the humidity of this province, that the miſletoe grows not only on the oak, but on apples, pears, and thorns.

All the way from Aviles to Oviedo, we found the harveſt over, and the people, men, women, and children, in the field threſhing out the grain with flails; becauſe, in this moiſt and temperate province, they cannot uſe the trillo.

Their flail is very heavy, and extravagantly long, not leſs than five feet in common, and the handſtaff is nearly of the ſame length. In conſequence of this, the motion of the flail is ſlow, and the exertions of the threſher turn to little account. To underſtand this ſubject, we muſt recollect the laws of motion. Now, when quick motion is communicated to the grain, whilſt the ſtraw remains unmoved, or when the ſtraw receives the ſtroke, whilſt the grain continues in a ſtate of reſt, a ſeparation is the conſequence. When either moves ſlowly, the other follows, and no ſeparation is effected; but the greater the velocity of either, the more certain and ſpeedy is the ſeparation

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ſeparation of the grain. Suppoſing the ſtraw and grain to be moved with different velocities, the ſame effect will follow in proportion to that difference. We muſt always remember, that the weight of impinging bodies being given, the magnitude of the ſtroke is directly as the velocity. This principle rightly underſtood and applied, would not only long ſince have baniſhed heavy flails for threſhing the lighter grains, but would, from the beginning, have led to the machine for coining now recently introduced at Birmingham.

Threſhing is by no people better underſtood than by the Wiltſhire peaſants, who for wheat prefer a flail of three feet, weighing about twenty-four ounces, with a hand-ſtaff of the ſame length.

In the Aſturias, they depend upon the wind for winnowing, and have no idea of a machine for performing that operation in a barn. Were they to ſee the fan, formed after the model of a machine, firſt invented by Reiſelius of Wurtemberg, called *rotatilis ſuctor et preſſor*, but diſcovered by Dr. Papin, and from Holland introduced into this iſland; it is to be hoped, that, without either pre-

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judice or ſcruples, they would immediately adopt it; and that no fanatic prieſt, as in North Britain, would condemn the uſe of it as impious, under the idea of not depending upon providence for a favourable breeze.

When I returned to Oviedo, a gentleman gave me a collection of amber and of jet, of which there is great abundance in this province; but the two moſt conſiderable mines of it are in the territory of Beloncia, one in a valley called *Las Guerrias*, the other on the ſide of a high mountain in the village of Arenas, in the pariſh of *Val de Soto*. The former is found in ſlate, and looks like wood; but when broke, the nodules diſcover a white cruſt, incloſing yellow amber, bright and tranſparent. Jet, and a ſpecies of kennel coal, abounding with marcaſites, univerſally accompany the amber. The natural hiſtory of this curious ſubſtance is ſo little underſtood, that every fact relating to it ſhould be treaſured up. Till of late years, it was found only on the ſea-ſhore, caſt up by the waves; but even then the various inſects incloſed in it, ſuch as ants and flies, proved it to be a production

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of the land. But now we find it foſſil, and hence trace a connection between bitumens and reſins. We ſee it likewiſe as one link in a vaſt chain, the origin of which all philoſophers are labouring to diſcover. We find it in a country, where the incloſing ſtrata, and all the ſurrounding rocks, charged with marine ſhells and plants, ſhew clearly, that both it and they are the depoſit of the ocean.—This ſubject will be frequently reſumed, and, from its vaſt importance, merits the moſt minute attention.

When every one began to talk of winter, I thought it expedient to prepare for my return towards the ſouth, before the mountains ſhould be covered by the ſnow, which uſually falls at the beginning of November, and ſometimes even in the middle of October. I was not indeed in a condition to undertake the journey; but the fear of being ſhut up in the Aſturias, till the return of ſpring, prevailed over all other conſiderations, and made me reſolve to venture.

As the account of my indiſpoſition may ſerve towards the natural hiſtory of the country, I ſhall briefly give it. The 21ſt of Auguſt, riding from Oviedo to Aviles, on

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on a rainy day, I was wet through; and at the end of our journey, as I had nothing at hand to change, I ſuffered my clothes to dry upon my back. I had, however, no reaſon to think that I had taken cold, till I perceived that I was gradually loſing the uſe of all my limbs, without either pain or fever. The phyſician, at the end of one month, confined me to my bed, and forbade me the uſe of wine, allowing me only water and vegetables, till he had reduced me to the loweſt ſtate of debility. I ſubmitted; but, feeling evidently that I was going faſt from bad to worſe, I took my leave of him, and, by the uſe of the bark, with a generous diet, I regained ſome degree of ſtrength, and, getting myſelf placed upon a mule, I ventured to ſet forwards on my way towards the ſouth.

The biſhop and his family expreſſed their concern at my departure; yet, conſidering the humidity of their climate, and the near approach of winter, they were kind enough to conſent that I ſhould undertake the journey, in hope that a warmer and a drier air might reſtore my health.

JOURNEY

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JOURNEY

FROM THE

ASTURIAS TO THE ESCURIAL.

OCTOBER 2, I left Oviedo, and paſſing through ſeveral little villages, came to *Mieres* in the middle of the day. At night I found a comfortable bed at *Campomanes*, having travelled ten leagues and an half over delightful hills, all either covered thick with wood, or highly cultivated.

In both theſe places I was much ſurpriſed at the moderation of their charges. At Mieres, for a diſh of eggs, for dreſſing my fowl, and for the *ruido de la caſa*, that is, for the noiſe of the houſe, or rather for attendance, the good woman required only a real, or ſomething more than two pence farthing. At Campomanes, for the ſame and for my bed, the demand was two reales.

As

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As we approached the confines of the principality, the ſcene greatly changed; for, inſtead of ſoft and ſwelling hills, covered with graſs or clothed with woods; ſcarcely any thing was to be ſeen but ſtupendous rocks of limeſtone, ſome in long ridges riſing perpendicular to the height of two or three hundred feet, others cragged and broken into a thouſand forms. In this route, the way winds chiefly by the ſide of little rivers, brooks, or torrents, till it has paſſed the ſummit of that vaſt chain of mountains, which ſeparates the Aſturias from the Old Caſtille: yet in the midſt of theſe ſtupendous mountains, a few rich vallies intervene, each with its little village, in ſize proportioned to the extent of land ſuſceptible of cultivation.

In the ravins through which we paſſed, I obſerved that all the mills have horizontal water wheels. Theſe grind the corn very ſlowly, being fed by ſingle grains; but then to compenſate for this defect, they place many near together, and the ſame little ſtream having communicated motion to one wheel, paſſes in ſucceſſion to the reſt. Theſe are well ſuited to a country abounding

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abounding with ſtone for building, where water runs with rapidity down a ſteep deſcent, and where diſpatch is not required.

October 4, as we deſcended towards Leon, we overtook a Merino flock, belonging to the monaſtery of Guadalupe, in Eſtramadura. Theſe monks have ſufficient land near home to keep their flock during the winter months; but in the ſummer, when their own mountains are ſcorched, they ſend their ſheep into the north, where, having no lands, they are obliged to pay for paſturage. They were on their return towards the ſouth.

The great lords, and the religious houſes, to whom belong theſe *traſhumantes*, or travelling flocks, have peculiar privileges ſecured to them by a ſpecial code, called laws of the Meſta; privileges, by many conſidered as inconſiſtent with the general good.

This inſtitution has been traced back to the year 1350, when the plague, which ravaged Europe for ſeveral years, had deſolated Spain, leaving only one-third of its former inhabitants to cultivate the ſoil.

But

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But perhaps we ought to look for its origin in more remote and diſtant ages, when the whole country was occupied by ſhepherd nations, and when agriculture was but little known. Theſe certainly were the firſt inhabitants, or if not the firſt, at leaſt, as the votaries of Pan, that venerable protector of the fleecy tribe, they may claim precedency before the more modern worſhippers of Ceres. Occupying the hills with their numerous flocks and herds, it was natural for them in winter to quit a country then covered deep with ſnow, and to ſeek the more temperate regions of the ſouth; till theſe, burnt up by the returning ſun, refuſed them paſture, and drove them back again to the mountains of the north, which, during the ſummer months, are covered with perpetual verdure by the gradual melting of the ſnow.

The numbers of the Merino ſheep are continually varying. Cajaleruela, who wrote A. D. 1627, complained that they were reduced from ſeven millions to two millions and an half. Uſtariz reckoned in his time four millions; but now they are near five. The proprietors are numerous, ſome having

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only three or four thouſand, while others have ten times that number. The Duke of Infantado has forty thouſand. Each proprietor has a mayoral or chief ſhepherd, to whom he allows annually one hundred doblons, or £.75, and a horſe; and for every flock of two or three hundred ſheep, a ſeparate ſhepherd, who is paid according to his merit, from eight ſhillings a month to thirty, beſides two pounds of bread a day for himſelf, and as much for his dog, with the privilege of keeping a few goats on his own account.

The produce of wool is reckoned to be about five pounds from every ewe, and eight from the wethers; and to ſhear eight of the former, or five of the latter, is reckoned a good day's work. Some, indeed, allow twelve ſheep to every ſhearer; but even this comes ſhort of what we do in England, where a common hand will diſpatch ſixty in a day, and a good workman has been known to finiſh half as many more.

The wool of the Merino ſheep is worth little leſs than twelve pence a pound, whilſt that of the ſtationary flocks ſells for only ſix pence; and every ſheep is reckoned to yield

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yield a clear profit of ten pence to the proprietor, after all expences are diſcharged.

When the ſheep are travelling, they may feed freely on all the waſtes and commons; but, in paſſing through a cultivated country, they muſt be confined within their proper limits in a way, which is ninety varas wide. Hence it comes to paſs, that, in ſuch inhoſpitable diſtricts, they are made to travel at the rate of ſix or ſeven leagues a day; but where paſture is to be had, they are ſuffered to move very ſlow. When they are to remove, either in the ſpring or autumn, if the lord has no lands, where his flocks are to be ſtationed, the chief ſhepherd goes before, and engages agiſtment, either of thoſe proprietors who have more than ſufficient for themſelves, or of the corporations, who, in Spain, have uſually extenſive waſtes and commons round their cities.

It is to theſe claims of the Merino flock that ſome political writers have attributed the want of cultivation in the interior provinces of Spain.

On deſcending once more into the plains of

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of Old Caſtille, an obſervation, confirmed by all with whom I had any communication on the ſubject, occurred to me, that the wine on the ſouth ſide of the mountains, being tranſported to the north, improves greatly in its flavour, preciſely as other wines improve by being removed to warmer climates.

At the end of three days, when I arrived at Leon, I was ſo well ſatisfied with the attention of my guide, that we made a freſh agreement, and he accompanied me to Salamanca. For himſelf, and for his mule, I was to allow him a hard dollar, or about four ſhillings a day, both in going and returning, he being to pay all his own expences on the road, which, for a ſtranger, is the beſt plan, although the natives find it more advantageous to maintain their guides.

Having ſettled all preliminaries, and made proviſion for the journey; on the 6th of October, we turned our backs on Leon; and, being by this time tolerably acquainted with each others dialect, we began a converſation by the way. The honeſt fellow, taking a hearty ſwig at the *borracho*, or leathern bottle, which contained our wine,

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broke the ſilence, by telling me, that this was the ſkin of his moſt favourite cat; and then, continuing his diſcourſe, gave me the hiſtory, both of the cat and of the countries through which he had travelled with her ſpoil.—This was to him, in all his journeys, a conſtant companion, a never-failing ſource of conſolation; and he appeared to be as fond of her now dead, as it was poſſible for him to have been, whilſt ſhe was ſenſible of his careſſes. The ſkin contained about a gallon, and uſually ſerved us, when filled, for more than half a day.

The way was over an extenſive plain of ſand and gravel, evidently brought from diſtant hills, all ſmooth, and rounded by the action of water. The crops are chiefly rye, with ſome wheat and barley. The trees are the ilex, the poplar, and the elm.

I was ſtruck with the conſtruction of their ploughs, not merely as having neither ſheet, coulter, mould-board, fin (for to this defect I was become familiar), but as having the ſhare morticed into the curved beam at leaſt three inches above its heel, creating thereby a degree of friction, which muſt greatly increaſe the labour of the oxen.

Women

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Women hold the plough. The cart-wheels are of plank, fixed upon the axis, like thoſe in the Aſturias, only they are better made.

The numerous villages contain from fifty to five or ſix hundred mud-wall cottages, but ſeem in general to be going to decay. The inns are more wretched than thoſe of the Aſturias, and are thought to be conſiderable, if they make up more than one bed.

At *Toral*, where we ſlept the firſt night from Leon, as ſoon as we arrived, I ſurveyed the premiſes, and made out my inventory of the furniture; finding in the chamber (for they had only one) two beds, two broken benches, one crippled table, and a little lamp dripping its oil, and ſmoking in the middle of the room. This circumſtance is not uncommon, becauſe they have no candles, and their lamps are of the moſt rude conſtruction. I was, however, too much of a traveller to feel diſguſt, and was preparing to ſettle myſelf comfortably, when an old canon of Oviedo, with two ſchool-boys, and a young friar, entering, told me, that they had beſpoken this room ſome days before. I bowed ſubmiſſion, but

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ſtopped one moment to enquire the age of this young friar. He informed me, that he was now in his ſeventeenth year; and that, two years before, at Aviles, in the Aſturias, having accompliſhed his noviciate, he had bound himſelf by the irrevocable vows.

When I had retired, my faithful guide informed me, that he had procured a bed for me at the houſe of the curate, who was a friend of his, whither he inſtantly conducted me. Here I met with ſuch a reception, that I had no reaſon to lament my diſappointment at the poſada.

The next morning we arrived at Benavente, and in the way had occaſion to obſerve a change of dreſs. In this reſpect, every province has ſomething peculiar to itſelf. The peaſants, who attracted my attention, were from Aſtorga. They had round hats, leather jackets without ſleeves, and trowſers ſomewhat reſembling thoſe of Dutchmen, perfectly correſponding with what were formerly worn by the *Brachati*.

Benavente is at preſent remarkable only for the palace of the dutcheſs, a vaſt and ſhapeleſs pile, poſſeſſing the marks of great antiquity,

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antiquity, and commanding a moſt extenſive property. This city ſeems to be going to decay, yet includes ſix convents. It is divided into nine pariſhes, and reckons two thouſand two hundred and thirty-four ſouls.

Bread is here three quarts, or $\frac{27}{32}$ penny a pound of ſixteen ounces; beef is ſeven quarts, or a ſmall fraction under two pence; and mutton is two pence farthing a pound. The beſt wine is about five pence a gallon. Theſe are the ſtated prices, when beef and mutton are to be had; but my guide having neglected to make proviſion for himſelf, muſt have been contented to pick the bones of my miſerable fowl, had it not been for the bounty of a traveller, who had more than he could eat.

The road from Leon to Zamora is about eighteen Spaniſh leagues, all the way near the Eſla, a little river whoſe water runs into the Duero below Zamora. From this circumſtance the way is moſtly level; the ſoil, to a great depth, is either granite ſand, or clay of a weak contexture; and the villages are compoſed of mud-wall cottages.

At *Santa Oveña*, having the curioſity to

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meaſure the room, which, like moſt in Spain, ſerved the double purpoſe of bed-chamber and parlour, I found it to be twelve feet by ten; yet, in theſe contracted limits were contained, a bed, the treſſels for another, a chair, a table, with two large cheſts for the king's tobacco, for barley, linen, and all the treaſures of the family. The kitchen is nearly of the ſame dimenſions: yet in this poſada I counted thirty-five horſes, mules, and aſſes, with their riders and drivers, who all found lodging for the night.

Whilſt I was at ſupper, an old beggar entered. When I had given him bread, he kiſſed it, bowed his head, and left the room. Struck with his behaviour, I followed him inſtantly, and gave him money; he bowed, kiſſed it in ſilence, and left the inn.

Zamora, a city of great antiquity, is at preſent reduced very low, but formerly it muſt have been conſiderable, and will, I have no doubt, ſoon regain its conſequence. Situated in a fertile country, on the confines of Portugal, watered by the Duero, and near the conflux of the Eſla, it muſt always have invited plenty; and when the communi-

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communication ſhall be opened by the canal, for the tranſport of its productions, it will daily grow in wealth. The extent of its fortifications, twenty-three pariſh churches, and ſixteen convents, incloſed within the walls, in ſome meaſure ſerve to ſhew what it was; and the recent decorations of the cathedral give a good ſpecimen of what it may hereafter be. This building is old, but the altar is modern, and is much to be admired for the variety of its marbles, chiefly from the Aſturias; for the elegance of its compoſition; and for the beauty of its hangings, which are made of crimſon velvet, richly embroidered with gold.

The chief manufactures are, of hats, ſerges, coarſe cloth, and nitre; but for the latter the climate is by no means favourable.

Beef is cheaper than at Benavente, being here only ſix quarts, or ſomething more than three halfpence a pound; but pork is nearly three times as much.

From Zamora we travelled only three leagues, and reſted for the night at *Corrales*, a village of three hundred and ſixty cottages. It was not till next morning that I

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fully comprehended for what reaſon we had made ſo ſhort a journey the preceding day; but, upon our entering an extenſive foreſt, my provident conductor told me, that he always choſe to meet the morning, rather than to be overtaken by the night, whenever he was to paſs through a foreſt, and that, by ſuch precautions, he had frequently eſcaped unmoleſted, where others had been robbed.

From Corrales we aſcended gently for three leagues, and then deſcending as many, at the end of ſeven hours we reached *Calzada de Valdeunciel*, having travelled for at leaſt five hours through a foreſt, in which, as we proceeded, my guide told me the names of the eminences to be paſſed, all diſtinguiſhed by one generic term *Confeſſionarios*; implying, that on theſe the traveller would ſtand in need of a confeſſor to prepare him for his fate. Conſidering the vaſt extent of this foreſt, and its vicinity to Portugal, no ſituation can be more favourable to robbers, or to the ſmuggler who, when he has been plundered himſelf, is apt to plunder others.

The ſoil here is moſt evidently decom-

poſed

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poſed granite, with its quartz, feld ſpat, and mica. The trees are chiefly ilex, roble, and the cork tree.

All the way from Leon to Salamanca, for three and thirty leagues, or about one hundred and fifty miles, the country is ſo flat and open, that the Mooriſh horſe, when they invaded Spain, muſt have met with nothing to impede their progreſs; becauſe, in ſuch extenſive plains, an oppreſſed people, diſpirited and diſarmed, could have little inclination to make reſiſtance; and had it not been for a more hardy race inhabiting the mountains of the north, the whole peninſula might at this moment have been numbered among the followers of Mahomet.

When I directed my courſe towards Salamanca, it was with a view of paying a viſit, by appointment, to the marquis of Ovieco, but, unfortunately for me, on my arrival, I found that he was detained by illneſs at Madrid. This diſappointment was the more vexatious, becauſe I had no letters, nor any proſpect of being introduced. I ventured, however, to preſent myſelf to Dr. Curtis, preſident of the Iriſh college, who

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who received me with politeneſs, took me under his protection, and, during my ten days abode at Salamanca, conſidered me as part of his family.

His ſituation is reſpectable, and the convent, part of which he occupies, is one of the beſt in Spain. It was built A. D. 1614, by the jeſuits, but, upon their expulſion, being found much too extenſive for any one ſociety, it was divided; the ſouth ſide being given to the Iriſh, and the north to the biſhop of the dioceſe for his ſtudents.

The wing, in the occupation of the former, is three ſtories high, and more than two hundred feet long. In the middle of each, through the whole extent, there runs a wide gallery to form a communication between a double range of bed-rooms. Theſe long galleries having no light excepting at the ends, are well adapted to the climate: for even at noon, and during the moſt diſſolving heats of ſummer, they afford a cool retreat. The whole building is covered with a terrace walk, commanding all the country; and here the young men take the air.

The wing devoted to the biſhop's college

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lege is nearly ſimilar to this, with the addition of a cloiſter, and an elegant apartment of ſixty feet by thirty, deſigned for conference and diſputations.

The church is in common to both eſtabliſhments, and is built upon ſuch a plan as muſt do credit to the taſte as well as to the wealth of the diſgraced community.

In the Iriſh college, threeſcore ſtudents are received at a time, and when theſe are ſent back to Ireland, the ſame number from thence are admitted, to be like them trained up for the miniſtry. Their courſe of education requires eight years. They are expected to come well founded in the languages; and of the time allotted to them in Spain, four years are given up to the ſtudy of philoſophy, the remainder to divinity. The ſyſtem of philoſophy includes logic, metaphyſics, mathematics, phyſics, and ethics. For theſe they read Jacquier; and for theology they follow P. Collet. They riſe every morning at half paſt four, and have no vacations.

The mode of giving lectures is perhaps peculiar to themſelves, but worthy to be followed in our univerſities. The ſtudents

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have queſtions propoſed for their diſcuſſion twice every day, and on theſe they are informed what books to read; then, ſuppoſing the ſubject to admit of a diſpute, it is carried on by two of them under the direction of a moderator, who gives aſſiſtance when it is wanted, and guides them to the truth. Where this mode of proceeding is not admiſſible, the tutors, inſtead of giving formal lectures, employ themſelves in the examination of their pupils, and the buſineſs of inſtruction is thus greatly expedited.

Dr. Curtis lives with his pupils like a father with his children; and, although in a ſtate of baniſhment, ſeems happy in the diſcharge of his important functions. It is, however, much to be lamented, that he and they ſhould be reduced to the neceſſity of ſeeking that protection in a foreign and diſtant country, to which they are entitled in their own. This kind of perſecution is neither juſt nor politic. It is certain that ignorance and bigotry have a ſtrong connection. Would you overcome inveterate prejudices, and are you anxious to baniſh ſuperſtition? let in the light. Would you conciliate the affections

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affections of thoſe who differ from you in their religious creed? no longer perſecute. Embrace them, and from enemies they will become your friends; let in the light, and difference of opinion dies away. Catholics, in the more enlightened countries, are no longer papiſts; their whole ſyſtem is going to decay; and, without claiming more than common ſagacity, we may venture to foretel, that in proportion as the limits of toleration ſhall be extended, all that cannot bear the light will gradually vaniſh, till the diſtinction between catholics and proteſtants ſhall ceaſe.

To haſten this event, the education of catholics in Ireland, for the purpoſe of the miniſtry, ſhould not only be connived at, but ſhould meet with all poſſible encouragement.

The univerſity of Salamanca was founded in the year 1200, by Alfonſo IX, king of Leon, and regulated by Alfonſo, ſurnamed the Wiſe, (A. D. 1254) under whoſe protection flouriſhed the greateſt aſtronomers of Europe. This ſeminary ſoon roſe into importance, and became eminent in Europe by acquaintance with the Arabian authors, and, through them, with the Greek.

Its

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Its profeſſors tranſlated Avicena, who took the lead in medicine, and Averroes, who had beſtowed much time in ſtudying Ariſtotle; but not ſatisfied with copying from the Arabs, they laboured much themſelves, and became juſtly famous in their day for their knowledge in juriſprudence, and for their progreſs in all the ſciences then cultivated in Europe. The reverence of the firſt profeſſors of this univerſity for Ariſtotle and for Thomas Aquinas, continues to the preſent day. The court indeed has long declared war againſt them both, and repeatedly commanded that they ſhould be abandoned; but, not having adopted ſuch methods as are practicable, to ſecure obedience, the old profeſſors walk in the ſame path in which their fathers walked before them.

We are not however to imagine that Salamanca produces no men of liberal ideas. Far be it from us to entertain ſuch a thought; becauſe we know that even in the darkeſt ages, ſome men of ſcience were hid in convents, who, had they lived in more favourable times, would have diffuſed light, and have been admired in the world. One ſuch, and I doubt not there may be many, I met with in D. Joſeph Diaz, a father of the Auguſtines;

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guſtines; who, for learning, good ſenſe, and liberality of ſentiment, would be an ornament to any country.

The ſtudents were formerly reckoned about ſixteen thouſand, but they are now much reduced; and, in 1785, the number of matriculas was nineteen hundred and nine. In a curious edict of Charles V. for the regulation of mendicity, we find a clauſe permitting ſtudents in the univerſities to beg, provided they have a licence from the rector: but in the preſent day they appear to be in a more reſpectable condition, and few, if any, take advantage of this privilege.

The library is ſpacious, and tolerably well furniſhed with modern books; yet the bulk is traſh, conſiſting principally of ſcholaſtic divinity.

Of all the public edifices, the cathedral is the moſt worthy of attention. The foundation of this ancient ſtructure was laid A. D. 1513, but it was not finiſhed till 1734. It is three hundred and ſeventy-eight feet long, one hundred and eighty-one wide in the clear, one hundred and thirty high in the nave, and eighty in the ailes. The whole is beautiful, but the moſt ſtriking part of this church, and of many public buildings in this city, is the ſculpture,

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ture, which merits admiration, not only for the taſte therein diſplayed, but for its excellent preſervation. Over the principal door is repreſented, in bold relief, the adoration of the ſages; and over another, the public entrance of Chriſt into Jeruſalem; all appearing as freſh and ſharp as if they were but recently put up.

The church of the Dominicans comes little ſhort of the cathedral in point of ſculpture. It has a repreſentation of St. Stephen ſtoned, with a crucifix above it, all as large as life, and not apparently injured by the weather. Indeed in both theſe edifices the carvings are in ſome meaſure protected, not from a driving rain, but from its perpendicular deſcent, becauſe they ſink back as much as the thickneſs of the wall will permit, which is at leaſt ſix feet, and are ſurrounded by mouldings projecting conſiderably beyond the wall. The precaution, without doubt, was prudent; yet I was not a little ſtruck when I obſerved the ornaments of baſs-relief preſerving their ſharpeſt angles, even when expoſed to the full force of the deſtructive elements. This circumſtance may be readily accounted for, when we conſider that the ſtone is a grit, which

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which when firſt taken from the quarry, is ſoft; but, upon being expoſed to the air, acquires hardneſs. Hence it is peculiarly valuable both to the architect and the ſculptor; and to theſe properties we may attribute the beautiful monuments of art which abound in Salamanca.

It would be tedious to deſcribe the convents and public ſeminaries of this once famous city; yet, to paſs them all in ſilence, would be inexcuſable. I therefore briefly mention ſuch as are moſt worthy of attention.

Among theſe may certainly be reckoned the old college. Here the quadrangle is ſmall, yet elegant; and the cloiſter, with its four and twenty columns, one of the prettieſt in Salamanca: the apartments are commodious, and thoſe of the regent are in a ſuperior ſtile.

The college of the archbiſhop is built upon a larger ſcale, more light and airy, and having four galleries of one hundred and thirty feet, with two and thirty columns ſupported by as many, which form the cloiſter, it may be called magnificent. The date of this building is 1550.

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Cuenca college is remarkable at preſent for its neatneſs and ſimplicity; but the portico, when finiſhed, will place it among the moſt elegant buildings of this city.

The college of Oviedo, with the churches of the *Auguſtinos Calzados* and of the *Carmelitas Deſcalzos*, deſerve attention.

Of all theſe colleges and convents, it were endleſs to enumerate the treaſures and rich jewels deſigned for the ſervice of the altar. Whatever is moſt valuable, the produce of Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America, is here collected; and the beſt workmen, in every country, have exerted all their taſte and ſkill, each in his ſeveral branch, to ſhew the perfection of his art. The ornaments and dreſſes of the prieſts are both rich and beautiful; but the moſt coſtly piece of furniture, in moſt convents, is the Cuſtodia, that is, the depoſitory of the hoſt, or, according to the ideas of a catholic, the throne of the Moſt High, when, upon ſolemn feſtivals, he appears to command the adoration of mankind. It is not uncommon to expend ſix thouſand ounces of ſilver upon one of theſe, beſides gold and precious ſtones; yet, in moſt of them, the work-

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workmanſhip ſurpaſſes the value of the materials.

The great ſquare, although laſt mentioned, is not leaſt worthy of attention. I had almoſt hourly occaſion to paſs through it, and never ſaw it without pleaſure. It is ſpacious, regular, built upon arches, and ſurrounded with piazzas. Such a ſquare would be admired *even* in London, or in Paris; but in a city like Salamanca, where all the ſtreets are narrow, it gives peculiar expanſion to the lungs, when you find yourſelf at liberty to breathe, when light burſts upon you by ſurpriſe, and when ſymmetry unites with greatneſs in all the objects by which you are encompaſſed.

The portico is not more to be admired for its beauty in the day, than for the protection it affords by night; becauſe in this city they have an execrable cuſtom, both offenſive to the noſtrils, and deſtructive of good clothes, ſimilar to that, for which the inhabitants of the Old Town in Edinburgh have been deſervedly reproached.

In the year 1030, there was not a ſingle convent in Salamanca; and in 1480, previous to the diſcovery of America, they had only ſix for men, and three for women; but now

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there are thirty-nine. In 1518, they counted eleven thouſand virgins. At preſent the perſons under vows are happily reduced to one thouſand five hundred and nineteen.

The houſes are no more than three thouſand, yet they have twenty-ſeven pariſh churches, with fifteen chapels, and the clergy are, of thoſe that are parochial, three hundred and ninety-nine; of the cathedral, one hundred thirty-two; beſides the royal clergy of S. Mark, forty-nine; amounting in the whole to five hundred and eighty.

In a city where the convents and clergy are ſo numerous, it may be well expected, that beggars will abound; and agreeably to this idea it is ſeen, that by the ample proviſion here made for lazineſs, every ſtreet ſwarms with vagabonds, not merely with thoſe, who are proper objects of compaſſion, but with wretches, who, if compelled to work, would be found abundantly able to maintain themſelves. There is indeed an hoſpicio, or general work-houſe, for their reception; but as the funds are limited, and do not amount to ſixteen hundred pounds a year, it can ſupport only four hundred and fifty paupers. Should, however, the government be inclined to increaſe

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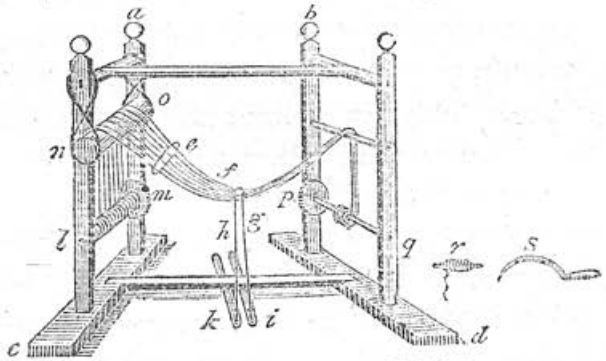
creaſe theſe funds, it will make no great difference, becauſe the numbers both in the work-houſe and the ſtreets will always bear proportion to the food diſtributed. This truth can ſcarcely be inculcated too often; but I ſhall defer my obſervations upon it, till I come to treat of Cadiz.

Among the various implements in this hoſpicio, I was much pleaſed with one for weaving tape, both cheap and ſimple in its conſtruction, and ſo expeditious in its work, that a little child weaves near fifty yards, and a woman more than one hundred and twenty, in a day. I ſhall deſcribe it by the aſſiſtance of a drawing.



a. b. c. d. Is the frame.
e. f. The warp, or chain.
g. h. The two harneſſes.
i. k. Treadles to work the harneſs.
l. m. The roller and ratchet to wind the warp.
n. o. The lantern to ſtrain the warp.
p. q. The roller and ratchet-wheel to wind the tape.
r. The bobbin. *s.* The ſlaie.

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The bobbin is worked by the left hand alone, the fingers being kept under the chain, and the thumb above it. The ſlaie is held in the right hand to beat up the work.

I was much pleaſed with the huſbandry in the vicinity of this city, as being ſuited to the ſoil. The plough has neither coulter, fin, nor mould-board; but near the tail of the ſhare it has two pins, ſo diſpoſed as to lay the furrow in high rafters or ridges, like the roof of a houſe. In this condition the land is left till ſeed time, when the ploughman firſt ſows the grain, then ſlits the furrow; and thus the ſeed, being all covered at an equal depth, ſprings away together, and appears as if it had been drilled. This, in a light ſoil, is certainly much better than either to plough clean before the grain is put into the ground, or to ſow it under furrow, according to the practice of ſome Engliſh farmers; yet I am inclined to think that the Hampſhire method of ſowing upon ſtale fallows, and letting in the ſeed by drags, would be found more profitable.

It is well known, that by this modern improvement, the value of land has been more

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more than doubled upon all the Hampſhire hills. When they were accuſtomed to plough often for their wheat, as in the low countries, and upon ſtrong land, it has frequently happened, that after ſowing four buſhels to an acre, they have reaped only eight, and ſometimes not more than half as much. But now, by ſuffering the land to ſettle, by ſcattering their ſeed upon the ground, when the whole perhaps is covered with thiſtles, and by paſſing their heavy drags twice over the field, moving each time the length-way of the furrow, they make a ſaving on the quantity of ſeed, and more than double the produce they were accuſtomed to receive. By improving on this practice, that is, by puſhing the principle ſo far as to fold his ſheep upon the land as faſt as he had ſown it, a judicious farmer, who lives at Cholterton in Wiltſhire, a few years ſince reaped forty buſhels from an acre, on land which, with different management, would probably never have yielded back the ſeed he ſowed.

When I expreſs myſelf ſatisfied with the huſbandry in the neighbourhood of Salamanca, it is only ſo far as it relates to

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ploughing; for, in no other reſpect has it any claim to approbation. The ploughman and the grazier, inſtead of being united in the ſame perſon, are here eternally at variance; and as the latter is the beſt tenant, the great proprietors give him the preference. Hence the country has been depopulated, and the lands, which are in tillage, for want of cattle to manure and tread them, produce light crops of corn. This biſhopric formerly contained ſeven hundred and forty-eight corporation towns; but now it has only three hundred and thirty-three, the other four hundred and fifteen being deſerted, and their arable lands reduced to paſture. To ſuch an extent is the depopulation ſpread, that, in a ſpace of ſeven leagues in length, and five in breadth, which formerly contained one hundred and twenty-ſeven towns, each with its corregidor and council, only thirteen remain. Theſe have forty-ſeven churches.

The ſoil, I have ſaid, is light. It is a ſand, and evidently a decompoſed granite, becauſe, upon examination, it is ſeen to be plentifully charged with a fine white mica. The rock is chiefly granite, covered in ſome places

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places with ſchiſt, but in others with ſilicious grit, which, as it appears to me, is nothing but the fine ſand or broken quarts of the granite, united by a cement.

All men are fond of ſyſtem: they aſſemble facts, and are never happier, than when from theſe they can deduce ſome general concluſion. The facts I wiſh to have recorded, are ſuch as may trace out the origin of grit; and I am at preſent much inclined to think, that hereafter it will be given to the granite. The connection, as it relates to vicinity, ſtands confeſſed, and may be ſo far uſeful in making out the hiſtory of that great revolution which once happened to our earth; but, from my own obſervations, I am ready to infer a more intimate connection, and that they ſtand related to each other as effect and cauſe, or as the parent and his offspring.

I have already ſuggeſted this idea, and have ventured to draw one concluſion from it in reſpect to Monjouy, near Barcelona. If well founded, this will aſſiſt us to account for the aſtoniſhing number of large grit ſtones, or grey whethers, as they are called, on the Wiltſhire Downs, and will confirm the diluvian ſyſtem firſt ſuggeſted by

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by Mr. King, in the Philoſophical Tranſactions of 1767. One of theſe large bowlder ſtones of grit, contains fragments of white opaque, and likewiſe of tranſparent quartz, with two flint ſtones of a conſiderable ſize. I muſt, however, reſerve what I have to ſay upon this ſubject, till I come to the deſcription of the Alps, on my return from Spain.

The government of the city is in a corregidor, one alcalde mayor, and forty-eight regidores.

When I had ſatisfied my curioſity at Salamanca, and found my ſtrength ſo far reſtored that I could with ſafety proſecute my journey, I made an agreement with a *Mozo del Camino*, for himſelf and mule, to go with me to the Eſcurial, not by the direct road, but by a ſmall detour, in order to ſee, at Piedrahita, a famous country-ſeat built by the Duke of Alba. The next day, after dinner, October 22, I took leave of Dr. Curtis with a cordial regret at parting, and ſet forward on my way, proceeding towards Alba.

For the firſt two leagues we aſcended gradually; then entered a foreſt of ilex, which, as my guide informed me, ſtretches eaſt

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eaſt and weſt near forty leagues. The acorns here are of the kind deſcribed by Horace, as the origin of war among the rude inhabitants of an infant world, " *glandem* " atque cubilia propter." Not auſtere, like thoſe of the oak, or of the common ilex, but ſweet and palatable, like the cheſnut, they are food, not merely for the ſwine, but for the peaſants, and yield conſiderable profit. Beyond the limits of this foreſt, we began to deſcend through a fine cultivated country, abounding with corn and wine; and at the diſtance of four ſhort leagues from Salamanca, we reached *Alba*.

This city contains at preſent only three hundred houſes, and has ſeven convents. One of them, that of the Carmelites, merits attention for its pictures, and for its treaſures; but the greateſt curioſity is the caſtle, with its round tower, ſupported by four ſquare ones, in which is depoſited the armour of all the dukes of Alba. To this ancient edifice they have added, at ſucceſſive periods, more modern habitations, forming a conſiderable quadrangle; but unfortunately all the rooms are ſmall.

About three leagues from hence, we entered another vaſt foreſt of the ilex, where

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we ſaw many droves of ſwine, a village with a church, conſiſting of four cottages, including the habitation of the curate. Here we took up our quarters in the middle of the day; and having left it, were proceeding towards Piedrahita, when a fall of heavy and inceſſant rain compelled us to ſtop ſhort of it, and to have recourſe for ſhelter to a miſerable village called *Malpartido*. The poſada had only one bed for the uſe of the whole family; and as that was occupied by a lad, ſon to the good woman of the houſe, then dying of a putrid fever, we had a moſt uncomfortable proſpect for the night. Beſides the bed-chamber, they had, as uſual, a kitchen, a room of about ten feet ſquare, with an elevated hearth in the centre of it, over which a little opening in the roof afforded a vent for the ſmoke. Around the hearth was a wide bench, which by day ſupplied the place of chairs, and by night ſerved the purpoſe of a bed. Upon this they deſigned to ſcatter ſtraw for me, leaving my guide to meaſure his length on the bare board at the other end of this magnificent apartment. Happily, however, I had a paſs from count Campomanes in my pocket. This I ſent, with my humble duty

to

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to the alcalde, requeſting that he would be pleaſed to procure me a lodging for the night. In a few minutes the meſſenger returned, and ſoon after the alcalde was announced. I roſe up inſtantly, prepared to meet him with profound reſpect; but, inſtead of a haughty magiſtrate, ſuch as my imagination had conceived him, behold a little inſignificant man, humble in his appearance, dreſſed in a coleto, or leathern jacket deſtitute of ſleeves, and bound cloſe round him with a girdle of the ſame materials. He informed me, that he had made all arrangements, and that the beſt bed in the village was preparing for me. He had ſcarcely finiſhed, when the young man, whoſe place I was to occupy, entered to expoſtulate; but the alcalde cut him ſhort with *no hay remedio*; and therefore, finding that it was to no purpoſe to complain, he quitted poſſeſſion with a good grace, and took up his lodging in the houſe of ſome relation. Having thus ſecured a bed, I left my guide to take good care of the alcalde, as a token of gratitude for his attention, and retired to my quarters for the night.

In

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In my new habitation I met with a comfortable bed, clean ſheets, and a kind reception from the family; and when I was to quit them in the morning, they could not be prevailed upon to accept a recompenſe. I was much ſurpriſed at finding ſuch generous ſentiments in a cottage; but I have ſince had frequent opportunities of admiring the high ſpirit of the Spaniards, and, *in many inſtances*, their contempt for money.

The putrid fever was not confined to the poſada; it raged without reſtraint; and, not only in this village, but in thoſe of the vicinity, there was ſcarcely a houſe from which they had not lately buried one of the family. It is much to be lamented, that the curates in Spain are not taught the management of fevers. As they muſt attend the dying, to adminiſter the ſacraments, it would be a deed of mercy well ſuited to their character, and by no means inconſiſtent with their ſacred functions, ſhould they learn to preſcribe the medicines, which, in England, when properly applied, generally ſucceed in checking the diſeaſe, and reſcuing from death. This knowledge may be eaſily acquired; and whenever it ſhall be univerſally

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univerſally diffuſed, fevers will ceaſe to be ſo deſtructive as at preſent, and will be feared in many caſes no more than fire, which, well regulated, is not only ſafe, but ſalutary; yet, if ſuffered to ſpread, is fatal to the houſe. It is not my intention to inſinuate, that the two profeſſions of phyſic and divinity ſhould be united, but only that in every place there ſhould be ſome one at hand, who might endeavour to extinguiſh this deſtructive flame the moment it appears; and, conſidering how ſmall and thinly ſcattered are the villages in Spain, and how wretched their inhabitants, the curate is the only perſon from whom they may naturally expect relief.

The country beyond Malpartido is exceedingly broken; and the granite rocks, expoſing their rugged fronts without a covering, ſhew clearly, that the ſummit of this great chain of mountains is not remote. We had been aſcending all the way from Salamanca; but having left the Tormes, as we draw nigh to Piedrahita, the waters take another courſe, and run into the Adaja.

Piedrahita is a village of one hundred and fifty houſes, with three convents and a beaterio, belonging to the dutcheſs of Alba, and famous

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famous only on account of a country-ſeat erected here by the late duke, in imitation of the Engliſh. Inſtead of being built round a court, with a corridor, like the Spaniſh houſes, it preſents a front of one hundred feet, with two projecting wings of ſixty feet; and the ground floor, inſtead of being abandoned to coach-houſe and ſtables, is occupied by the kitchen, the offices, and the principal apartments; and over theſe, are bed-chambers for ſervants. Contrary to the Spaniſh cuſtom, every room is ceiled, and the walls are papered. Altogether, it is a comfortable reſidence; but, to an Engliſhman, it has no great pretenſions. Had not the faireſt part of its furniture been removed, it would have ſeemed more beautiful; for the dutcheſs, who had been there with her friends for a few weeks during the greateſt heats of ſummer, was lately returned to court, and her preſence would have made a more humble habitation appear enchanting.

In leaving Piedrahita, we continued along the valley, ſhut in between high mountains, all covered with the ilex and gumciſtus. Theſe, mixed with the grey granite rocks, make

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make a beautiful appearance. As we advanced, we overtook ſeveral Merino flocks returning to the ſouth. Near the *Caſas del Puerto*, we entered another valley, running eaſt and weſt near ten leagues, and never much more than a mile in breadth. At the end of it, ſtands *Avila*.

The ſoil is ſand; the plough is like that laſt deſcribed; the fields are divided into ſmall portions; and the paſture is common. Their ſheep are folded, and the ſhepherd remains all night with his dogs near his flock, ſheltered only by a ſtraw cabin, juſt large enough to ſtretch himſelf at length. They have no iron about their carts, either on the wheels or axle-tree; the whole is wood. The oxen are yoked in pairs, and draw heavy burdens by their horns. The dreſs of the peaſant is the *coleto*.

As ſoon as we arrived in Avila, I viſited the market, to make, as uſual, proviſion for the day; and having purchaſed a kid, which, when the Merino flocks are paſſing, ſells for about ten reales, or two ſhillings, I ſent it to the cook's ſhop, and then began my rambles. Whilſt I was making ſome inquiries, a gentleman accoſted me, gave

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me the informations I required, undertook himſelf to be my guide, and, before we parted, made me engage to dine with him. This was D. Baltaſar Lezaeta, a prebendary of the cathedral; from whom I received as much attention as if I had been recommended by a friend.

Avila has at preſent only a thouſand houſes, or one-ſixth part of its former population; yet the convents are not diminiſhed, being ſixteen in number, nine for men, ſeven for women. Beſides theſe, it maintains eight pariſh churches, a cathedral with forty canons, five hoſpitals, and a univerſity. No wonder, then, that it ſhould ſwarm, as it does, with ſturdy beggars.

This city, built upon a granite rock, and incloſed by a wall, with eighty-eight projecting towers, has every where the appearance of great antiquity, but more eſpecially in the cathedral.

In this are many things worthy of attention, but principally the cloiſter, for its exquiſite neatneſs, and elegant ſimplicity. The ſacriſty is a good building, and the treaſure contained in it, both in plate and

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jewels, would in England be called ineſtimable. The cuſtodia, as uſual, of ſolid ſilver, is four feet high, adorned with Ionic, Compoſite, and Corinthian columns, and diſplays much taſte both in its deſign and execution. Among their jewels they have the pectoral of the late archbiſhop of Toledo, the infant don Luis, valuable chiefly for its gems, all large and of the fineſt water. The choir has beautiful carvings.

Of the convents, the moſt remarkable are thoſe of the Carmelites; one for nuns, the other for friars; the latter built upon the ſpot where S. Tereſa was born, the former where ſhe took the veil. In this, the principal thing at preſent worthy to be noticed, is a picture by Morales, repreſenting a dead Chriſt in his mother's arms; of which, nothing need be ſaid after having named the painter, becauſe all his works have ſuch peculiar ſoftneſs and expreſſion, that men have univerſally agreed in calling him, divine. The Carmelites of Avila once poſſeſſed a treaſure infinitely more valuable to them, than all the pictures ever painted by Morales: this was the body of S. Tereſa. It was originally interred at Alba, A. D.

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1582, but three years afterwards it was ſecretly taken up, and conveyed to Avila, where it was not ſuffered long to reſt; for the duke of Alba finding all other expedients vain, made application to the pope, and obtained an order for its return.

The life of S. Tereſa, lately publiſhed among thoſe of other ſaints, by the Rev. A. Butler, is peculiarly intereſting. Her frame was naturally delicate, her imagination lively, and her mind, incapable of being fixed by trivial objects, turned with avidity to thoſe, which religion offered, the moment they were preſented to her view. But unfortunately meeting with the writings of S. Jerom, ſhe became enamoured of the monaſtic life, and quitting the line, for which nature deſigned her, ſhe renounced the moſt endearing ties, and bound herſelf by the irrevocable vow. Deep melancholy then ſeized on her, and increaſed to ſuch a degree, that for many days ſhe lay both motionleſs and ſenſeleſs, like one who is in a trance. Her tender frame, thus ſhaken, prepared her for extaſies and viſions, ſuch as it might appear invidious to repeat, were they not related by herſelf, and by her greateſt

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greateſt admirers. She tells us, that in the fervour of her devotion, ſhe not only became inſenſible to every thing around her, but that her body was often lifted up from the earth, although ſhe endeavoured to reſiſt the motion; and biſhop Yepez relates in particular, that when ſhe was going to receive the euchariſt at Avila, ſhe was raiſed in a rapture higher than the grate, through which, as uſual in nunneries, it was preſented to her. She often heard the voice of God, when ſhe was recovered from a trance; but ſometimes the devil, by imitation, endeavoured to deceive her; yet ſhe was always able to detect the fraud. She frequently ſaw S. Peter and S. Paul ſtanding on her left hand, whilſt our Lord preſented himſelf before her eyes in ſuch a manner, that it was impoſſible for her to think it was the devil; yet, in obedience to the church, and by the advice of her confeſſor, ſhe inſulted the viſion, as ſhe had been uſed to do the evil ſpirits, by croſſing herſelf, and making ſigns of ſcorn. Once, when ſhe held in her hand the croſs which was at the end of her beads, our Lord took it from her, and when he reſtored it, ſhe

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ſaw it compoſed of four large gems incomparably more precious than diamonds. Theſe had his five wounds engraved upon them after a moſt curious manner; and he told her, that ſhe ſhould always ſee that ſame appearance: and ſo ſhe did; for from that time ſhe no longer ſaw the matter, of which the croſs was made, but only theſe precious ſtones, although no one ſaw them but herſelf. Whenever devils appeared to her in hideous forms, ſhe ſoon made them keep their diſtance, by ſprinkling the ground with holy water. She had often the happineſs of ſeeing ſouls freed from purgatory, and carried up to heaven; but ſhe never ſaw more than three which eſcaped the purifying flame, and theſe were F. Peter of Alcantara, F. Ivagnez, and a Carmelite friar.

It is acknowledged, that many of her friends, diſtinguiſhed for their good ſenſe and piety, after examination, were of opinion, that ſhe was deluded by the devil; yet ſuch was the complexion of the times, that ſhe was at laſt univerſally regarded as a ſaint. She had indeed every thing needful to conciliate the good opinion of her friends, and the admiration

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admiration of the multitude. The gracefulneſs and dignity of her appearance, the ſoftneſs of her manners, and the lovelineſs of her diſpoſition, the quickneſs of her wit, the ſtrength of her underſtanding, and the fire of her imagination, all her natural accompliſhments receiving luſtre from her exalted piety and zeal, from the ſanctity of her life, and the ſeverity of her diſcipline, all conſpired to eſtabliſh her reputation, as one that had immediate intercourſe with heaven.

It is curious, yet moſt humiliating, to ſee a perſon of this deſcription, amiable and reſpectable as S. Tereſa, deceived, and, with the beſt intentions, deceiving others. In this inſtance, we can readily account for the deluſion from the delicacy and weakneſs of her frame, the ſtrength of a diſturbed imagination, and the prevalence of ſuperſtition. But when we ſee men of the fineſt underſtandings, in perfect health, of different and diſtant nations, in all ages, treading upon the ſame inchanted ground, we can only wonder; for who can give any rational account of the aberrations of our reaſon? The hiſtory of myſticiſm, if well

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written, would be highly intereſting, as embracing ſome of the fineſt characters that were ever admired in the world. Should any able writer be engaged to undertake this work, he will explain to us the principles upon which Boſſuet, that prodigy of learning, perſecuted Fenelon, the moſt amiable of men, whilſt S. Francis of Sales was the object of his adoration; and why he poured contempt upon Madame Guion, whilſt he had the higheſt reverence for S. Tereſa.

This extraordinary woman, cheriſhed by ſovereign princes, univerſally admired whilſt living, and worſhipped when dead, had the happineſs of leaving behind her ſixteen nunneries, and fourteen convents of friars, founded by herſelf, and ſubject to the order of Carmelites, which ſhe had reformed.

Avila, although it no longer poſſeſſes her remains, yet, as the place of her nativity and chief reſidence, is much reſorted to at the ſeaſon of her feſtival. It has no manufactures. Some years ſince they began making cloth, but the ſituation not being favourable, the project was abandoned, and their dependence at preſent is on the produce

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of the ſoil. The country abounds with ſaffron, and this for a ſeaſon finds employment for the women and the children. Were it not for the cathedral and the convents, the city would be deſerted, becauſe not one proprietor of land reſides here; the whole being either rented, or held in *adminiſtration*, as they expreſs it; that is, cultivated by ſtewards on the proprietors account.

No country can ſuffer more than Spain for want of a rich tenantry; and, perhaps, none in this reſpect can rival England. We find univerſally that wealth produces wealth; but then, to produce it from the earth, a due proportion of it muſt be in the pocket of the farmer. Many gentlemen among us, either for amuſement, or with a view to gain, have given attention to agriculture, and have occupied much land; they have produced luxuriant crops, and have introduced good huſbandry; but, I apprehend, few can boaſt of having made much profit, and moſt are ready to confeſs that they have ſuffered loſs. If, then, reſiding on their own eſtates, with all their attention, they are conſiderable loſers; how great would be the loſs, if in diſtant provinces

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vinces they employed only ſtewards, to plough, to ſow, to ſell, and to eat up all the produce of their lands? In France they are ſo ſenſible of this, that for want of wealthy farmers, the proprietor finds ſtock, and takes his proportion of the produce; but in Spain, excepting a few provinces, the lands are commonly in adminiſtration; and hence, extenſive diſtricts yield only a contemptible revenue to their lord.

From Avila we proceeded about a league through a rich valley, and then began to climb thoſe mountains, which, dividing the two Caſtilles, formed for many ages the ſtrong barrier between the Chriſtians and the Moors; till Ferdinand I. deſcending with the united forces of Caſtille and Leon into the plain, drove the infidels before him, and diſplayed his victorious banners in Guadalajara, Alcala, and Madrid.

On theſe high mountains we travelled near five leagues without ſeeing a human face, or habitation, and ſcarcely a beaten track.

At a lower level we found the ilex. As we aſcended, theſe were ſucceeded by the roble oak; but near the ſummit we ſaw only

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only pines, with the juniperus europeus, the daphne mezereum, the matricaria ſuavis, the geniſta, and a variety of aromatic herbs, but chiefly thyme. At almoſt every level, the ciſtus tribes abound upon the granite mountains, excepting where, like theſe, the ſummits are covered with an eternal ſnow.

The firſt little village we paſſed through, is called *Naval Peral*; the next, at the diſtance of a league, *Navas del Marqués*: this, although it has only fifty cottages, has a church, a chapel, and a convent. From hence we proceeded about three leagues, and then began deſcending into the plains of New Caſtille.

All the way from Salamanca I obſerved ſaffron growing wild, which, if collected, would help to employ the poor in their villages, and yield conſiderable profit.

As we approached the Eſcurial, we entered upon the king's hunting road, made like thoſe of England, rather for uſe than beauty. Had the Spaniards been every where ſatisfied with ſuch; where they have finiſhed one league, they might have completed twenty. Their ambition aims in every

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every thing at perfection, and by ſeeking too much, they often obtain too little. The idea they have formed to themſelves of a perfect road, in point of utility, is moſt undoubtedly well founded; but in attempting to reduce this to practice, they are forced to loſe much time, and to expend more money than the benefit to be derived from it is worth. Had their ambition been leſs aſpiring, ere now a communication would have been opened between all their great cities, and much of their produce, now loſt, would have found a market. This hunting road ſhould convince the theoriſts among them, that a high-way may be firm without ſide walls, and ſupport any given weight without ſuch a foundation of huge rocks as would be needful for a caſtle. And although, for the mere purpoſe of expedition, to be perfectly both ſtrait and level would be deſireable, yet the traveller is better pleaſed where he finds variety, and is charmed, as he proceeds, with a conſtant ſucceſſion of new proſpects.

On my arrival at my journey's end, I found a letter from our miniſter, Mr. Liſton, to inform me, that when the court left

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left S. Ildefonſo, where he had been for ſome time expecting me, he had viſited Madrid, and that he ſhould not come to the Eſcurial till the beginning of the week,

Having therefore ſome time to ſpare for the excurſion, I immediately proceeded to repaſs the mountains, not returning by the ſame road, but going eaſtward by Guadarrama, and croſſing by the *Puerto de Fuenfria*, a paſs ſo called from the coldneſs of its waters. This puerto is elevated, and the proſpect from it is delightful; but with the ſcorching ſun, the aſcent to it is ſcarcely bearable. In looking down towards Segovia, the whole country appears level, like the ſurface of a lake, and extended like the ocean; but, as we deſcend into this plain, we ſee the mountains riſe before us. The country immediately around us, near this ſummit, is majeſtically wild, with deep ravins and projecting rocks, covered with pines, wherever pines can grow, and torn by raging torrents.

In a deep receſs, open and expoſed only to the north wind, ſtands S. Ildefonſo, enjoying freſhneſs, and gathering the fruits of ſpring,

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ſpring, when all to the ſouth of theſe high mountains, fainting with heat, are engaged in reaping, and collecting the autumnal crops. This change of climate, in the ſpace of eight leagues, for that is the diſtance from the Eſcurial to S. Ildefonſo, induced Philip V. to build a palace here.

S. Ildefonſo occupies three ſides of a ſquare, the two wings of which being joined, each by a long range of buildings, deſigned for the king's retinue, and cloſed in at bottom by iron gates and rails; the whole forms a beautiful and ſpacious area. The principal front, of five hundred and thirty feet in length, is to the ſouth, looking to the garden, and through its whole extent the apartments communicate with all the doors on the ſame line.

To give ſome idea of the pictures, it may be ſufficient to name the maſters, whoſe works have been here collected by Philip, and by ſucceeding princes. The principal are Leonardo de Vinci, Michael Angelo, Raphael, Hannibal Caraci, Guercino, Guido, Carlo Maratti, Correggio, Rubens, Pouſin, Paul Veroneſe, Woverman, Teniers, Martin de Vos, Andrea del Sarto, Vandyke,

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Vandyke, Dominicini, Tintoret, Albert Durer, Jordano, Velaſquez, Ribera, Ribalta, Valdez, Murillo, Mengs. In the church, the freſco paintings are by Bayeu, Mariano, and Maella.

In the lower apartments is a collection of antique ſtatues, made by Chriſtina, queen of Sweden, and conſidered as ineſtimable.

The church is dark, but elegant; and, with reſpect to treaſures, has few to rival it in Spain. Among the vaſt variety of gold and ſilver ornaments, the moſt ſtriking is one of the *cuſtodias*, valued originally at ſeventy thouſand ducats, or £. 7,690. 8 *s.* 6 *d.* ſterling.

The garden occupies a ridge, riſing to the ſouth, and falling both to the eaſt and to the weſt. Near the palace it is laid out in the old taſte, with clipped hedges and ſtraight walks, highly adorned and refreſhed with numerous fountains; but in proportion to the diſtance, it becomes more wild, till it terminates in the uncultivated and pathleſs foreſt, where the cragged rocks appearing among oaks and pines, preſent a ſtriking contraſt with the works of art.

This

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This garden, delightful for its walks, which, although ſhady, are neither damp nor gloomy, is moſt to be admired for its fountains. Of theſe, the moſt remarkable are eight, dedicated to the principal heathen deities, and adorned each with its proper emblems. In one, Diana appears attended by her nymphs, who are hiding her from Acteon. In another is ſeen Latona with Apollo and Diana, ſurrounded by ſixty-four jets of water. The moſt ſurpriſing is Fame ſeated on Pegaſus, with a trumpet to her mouth, throwing up a ſtream of more than two inches in diameter to the height of one hundred and thirty-two feet. But the moſt pleaſing ſight is the *Plazuela de las Ocho Calles*, where eight walks unite, each with its fountain in the centre, and where eight other fountains, under lofty arches, ſupported by Ionic pillars of white Italian marble, form an octagon, adorned with the images of Saturn, Minerva, Veſta, Neptune, Ceres, Mars, Hercules, and Peace, ſtanding round it; and Apollo, with Pandora, in the middle. The ſtatues are all of lead, varniſhed in imitation of braſs, and were made by Fermin and Tierri.

Beſides

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Beſides fountains innumerable, here are vaſt reſervoirs and falls of water, ſo diſpoſed as to contribute much to the beauty of the place.

When we conſider, that the whole of the garden was a barren rock, that the ſoil is brought from a great diſtance, and that water is conveyed to every tree; when we reflect upon the quantity of lead uſed for the images, and of caſt iron for the pipes, with the expence of workmanſhip for both, we ſhall not be ſurpriſed to hear that this place coſt forty-five millions of piaſtres, or, in Engliſh money, near ſix millions and an half.

Nothing is more whimſical than taſte; but, if it be true, that beauty is founded in utility; this place will always deſerve to be admired. In the preſent day, it is not uncommon to build the manſion in the middle of a field, open and expoſed to every wind, without ſhelter, without a fence, and wholly unconnected with the garden. Near the habitation all is wild, and art, if any where, appears only at a diſtance. In all this we can trace no utility, nor will ſucceeding generations diſcover beauty. On the contrary, in the garden of S. Ildefonſo,

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we find every thing, which in a ſultry ſeaſon is deſirable; a free circulation of air, a deep ſhade, and refreſhing vapours to abſorb the heat; whilſt from its contiguity to the manſion, the acceſs to it is eaſy, and at any time theſe comforts may be inſtantly enjoyed; yet, without theſe numerous fountains, the clipped hedges, and the narrow walks, the circulation would be leſs rapid, the ſhade leſs deep, and the refreſhing vapour would be wanting.

The glaſs manufacture is here carried to a degree of perfection unknown in England. The largeſt mirrors are made in a braſs frame, one hundred and ſixty-two inches long, ninety-three wide, and ſix deep, weighing near nine tons. Theſe are deſigned wholly for the royal palaces, and for preſents from the king. Yet, even for ſuch purpoſes, it is ill placed, and proves a devouring monſter in a country where proviſions are dear, fewel ſcarce, and carriage exceedingly expenſive.

Here is alſo a royal manufacture of linen, employing about fifteen looms; by which, as it is ſaid, the king is a conſiderable loſer.

Being now within the diſtance of two ſhort leagues from Segovia, I could not return

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turn without paying a viſit to that intereſting city. In the way to it, there is little appearance of cultivation, and the obvious reaſon is the continual depredations occaſioned by the royal deer. As we paſſed through the woods, before we came into the open field, we ſaw vaſt herds of them, unconfined, and free to range unmoleſted over all the country.

In Segovia, the firſt object to attract the eye, is the aqueduct. It contains one hundred and fifty-nine arches, extends about ſeven hundred and forty yards, and, where it croſſes the valley, it is ſomething more than ninety-four feet high.

The cathedral has no great pretenſions; yet in one of the chapels there is a good altar, with the Deſcent from the Croſs well executed in mezzo relievo, by a diſciple of Michael Angelo, and finiſhed A. D. 1571. The church is nearly upon the model of the great church at Salamanca, but it is not ſo highly finiſhed.

The Alcazar, or ancient palace of the Moors, has been ſo often deſcribed, that I ſhould paſs it over in ſilence, did not the attentions I received there deſerve a particular remembrance. I had no letters, and

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count Lacy, the inſpector, was abſent; but, upon preſenting myſelf to his lieutenant, as a ſtranger, he received me with politeneſs, and conducted me to every apartment. This ſtrong tower is no longer, as formerly, a ſtate priſon: it ſerves a more honourable purpoſe, and is devoted to one hundred cavaliers, who are here inſtructed in the military ſcience. The ſight of this building gave me pleaſure, more eſpecially the great hall, with the images of all their monarchs; but the higheſt ſatisfaction was, to ſee the Spaniſh character ſtrongly marked in the countenances of many among the young gentlemen who are educated here. A Spaniard may poſſibly grow rich in trade; he may make a progreſs in the ſciences; but, were he left to follow his natural inclination, he would certainly betake himſelf to a military life; and for that, if generoſity, if patience and fortitude, if a ſpirit of enterprize, are requiſite, in all theſe the true Spaniard will excel.

Segovia was once famous for its cloth, made on the king's account; but other nations have ſince become rivals in this branch, and the manufacture in this city has been gradually declining. When the king gave

it

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it up to a private company, he left about three thouſand pounds in trade; but now he is no longer a partner in the buſineſs. In the year 1612, were made here, twenty-five thouſand five hundred pieces of cloth, which conſumed forty-four thouſand ſix hundred and twenty-five quintals of wool, employed thirty-four thouſand one hundred and eighty-nine perſons; but at preſent they make only about four thouſand pieces. The principal imperfections of this cloth are, that the thread is not even, and that much greaſe remains in it, when it is delivered to the dyer; in conſequence of which, the colour is apt to fail. Yet independantly of imperfections, ſo many are the diſadvantages under which the manufacture labours, that foreigners can afford to pay three pounds for the arroba of fine wool, for which the Spaniard gives no more than twenty ſhillings, and after all his charges can command the market even in the ports of Spain.

In the year 1525, the city contained five thouſand families; but now they do not ſurpaſs two thouſand: a ſcanty population this for twenty-five pariſhes: yet, beſides the

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twenty-five churches, together with the cathedral, they have one and twenty convents. When the canal is finiſhed, and the communication opened to the Bay of Biſcay at S. Ander, the trade and manufactures of Segovia may revive; but, previous to that event, there can be nothing to inſpire them with hope.

As we returned (October 28,) towards New Caſtille, my intention was to have travelled at our leiſure; but, obſerving ſome degree of impatience in my guide to repaſs the mountains before night, I was happy to indulge him; and the next morning, when I looked back and ſaw the lofty ſummits covered deep with ſnow, I comprehended the reaſon of his ſolicitude. The ways behind us were rendered thus for the time impaſſable, whilſt all before us had been only watered by ſoft and refreſhing ſhowers.

In the Old Caſtille, the uſual price demanded by a muleteer is four reals a day for himſelf, as many for his mule, and ſix for barley, altogether equal to 2*s*. 9*d*.; but ſhould you omit to make a bargain, you muſt depend upon his mercy. The whole expence of travelling may be reckoned at ten

ſhillings

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ſhillings a day, if you go ſtraight forwards; but if you make a circle, or return with the ſame mule, it comes to about 7*s*. 6*d*.

The convent of S. Lorenzo is ſeated in a deep receſs, at the foot of thoſe high mountains, which ſeparate the two Caſtilles; and, protected from every wind, except the ſouth-eaſt, it looks down upon a wide extended plain, with all the neighbouring hills covered by thick woods, whilſt the mountains to the north are bare, or covered almoſt perpetually with ſnow. It was built by Philip II. in obedience to his father Charles V. to accompliſh his vow made after the battle of S. Quintin, which he gained by the interceſſion of S. Lorenzo. In honour of that ſaint, the architect, Juan Bautiſta de Toledo, took his idea from a gridiron, the inſtrument on which he ſuffered, making the royal reſidence project by way of handle, and repreſenting, not only the bars by multiplied diviſions, but the legs, by four high towers placed in the angles of this edifice. The dimenſions of the convent are ſeven hundred and forty Spaniſh feet by five hundred and eighty, and the height is ſixty; but the dome of the church is three hundred and thirty. The whole was finiſhed under the

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inſpection of Juan de Herrera, who was pupil to Bautiſta.

The friars of this convent are one hundred and ſixty, and their annual revenue is five millions of reals, or about fifty thouſand pounds, ariſing partly from land, and partly from their flock of thirty-ſix thouſand Merino ſheep, beſides one thouſand kept conſtantly near home, for the conſumption of the family.

Their library conſiſts of thirty thouſand volumes, contained in two magnificent apartments, each, one hundred and ninety-four Spaniſh, or ſomething more than one hundred and eighty-two Engliſh feet in length. In the lower room, are chiefly printed books; yet in it is depoſited the famous manuſcript of the Four Goſpels, written in gold letters, a work of the eleventh century. Over theſe are collected four thouſand three hundred manuſcripts, of which five hundred and ſixty-ſeven are Greek, ſixty-ſeven Hebrew, and one thouſand eight hundred Arabic, the latter well deſcribed in a catalogue lately publiſhed by Caſiri.

In the middle of the lower room is a temple, with a great variety of figures, containing one thouſand four hundred and forty-

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forty-eight ounces of ſilver, and forty-three of gold, beſide rich gems.

To a connoiſſeur in paintings, no place can afford higher entertainment than the convent of the Eſcurial. In every part of it are ſeen the works of the beſt maſters, and ſome of their moſt capital performances. It were endleſs to enumerate particulars. Suffice it to ſay, that during the reſidence of a month, I never failed a ſingle day viſiting the convent, and never left it without regret; always giving a more minute attention to the productions of thoſe artiſts who are the leaſt known in England. I had peculiar pleaſure in finding here, ſo many monuments of Titian, who, during a reſidence of five years in Spain, conſtantly exerciſed his pencil to enrich this nation, and to immortalize his name. The pictures which moſt rivetted my attention, were the famous Supper of Chriſt with the diſciples, by Titian; and a Holy Family, by Raphael; the latter once in the poſſeſſion of our Charles, but ſold by Cromwell, and purchaſed by the Spaniſh ambaſſador, for two thouſand pounds: it is called *La Perla*. The beſt of the pictures are collected in five principal apartments: in the ſacriſty, a room of

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of one hundred and eight by thirty-three; in the *igleſia vieja*, which is one hundred and five by thirty-four; and in two halls of eighty by twenty, with their antichamber. Theſe laſt are called Las Salas de los Capitulos, and, whilſt the court is here, are occupied by count Florida Blanca, on his public days. The great ſtair-caſe is beautiful, adorned with freſco paintings of the battle of St. Quintin, by Luca Jordano.

The pantheon, or catacomb, where the royal family, beginning with Charles V. are buried, is a ſubterranean vault of beautiful marble, highly finiſhed, capable of receiving twenty-ſix bodies, each in its own receſs.

As for the treaſures of the church, they are ineſtimable. The image of S. Lorenzo alone contains four hundred and fifty pounds of ſilver, with eighteen pounds of gold; yet this bears a ſmall proportion to the reſt.

At a little diſtance from the convent, the prince of Aſturias, and one of his brothers, the infant Don Gabriel, have each a little box, fitted up with exquiſite taſte, and hung with the beſt pictures, to which they often retire with their friends. That of the prince is the moſt elegant, and, as far as can be warranted by one ſpecimen, forms a happy

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preſage for the arts, whenever he ſhall mount the throne.

The Eſcurial, as a reſidence, is far from pleaſant. Were it low, and ſheltered, like Aranjuez, it would be agreeable in ſpring; or, were it elevated, hanging to the north, and covered by thick woods, like S. Ildefonzo, it might be delightful as a retreat in ſummer; but expoſed, as it is, to the full ſtroke of the meridian ſun, and raiſed up near to regions covered with eternal ſnow, without ſhelter, and deſtitute of ſhade, it has no local charms at any ſeaſon of the year. The miniſters, foreign and domeſtic, give good dinners, and do every thing they can to make this ſolitude ſupportable; but, as few ladies can be accommodated here, the aſſemblies want that gaiety which is peculiar to the ſex.

The king ſpends moſt of his time in ſhooting. In the middle of the day, after a ſhort excurſion, he returns to dinner, converſes with the foreign miniſters, retires for a few minutes with his confeſſor, and, generally before three, ſometimes much ſooner, leaves the palace, and goes to the diſtance of twenty or thirty miles before he begins to hunt. When the light fails, he gets into

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to his carriage, and returns. No weather deters him, becauſe he is not afraid of either thunder, lightning, hail, rain, or ſnow, but when one cloak is wet, he puts on another; and as for his attendants, he tells them coolly, "Rain breaks no bones." No holidays detain him from his ſport, except two in the paſſion-week; and then, although he is naturally of a moſt placid temper, he is ſaid to be ſo croſs, that no one chooſes to come near him. Even when one of his ſons was thought to be at the point of death, he went out as uſual, always inſiſting that he would certainly recover; and when informed that his ſon was dead, he replied, with his accuſtomed calmneſs, "Well, then, ſince "nothing can be done, we muſt make the "beſt of it." His uſual attendants are the prince of Aſturias, the captain of the guard, his maſter of the horſe, his groom of the ſtole, his phyſician, and his ſurgeon. All theſe occupy five carriages; beſides which, there is one for medicines, guns, ammunition, dry clothes, &c. Each carriage has ſix mules; and as, upon the road, there are ſeveral relays for them and for the guards, the number required for daily uſe is about two hundred. Their rate of travelling is twelve miles

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miles an hour; in conſequence of which, accidents happen frequently to the men, and to the mules.

In hunting, the king does not depend altogether on his dogs: he has commonly about two hundred men employed to beat up the game, and drive it towards him at convenient places, where he and the prince are ready, with ſervants attending to charge the guns, and to hand them forwards as faſt as they are fired. No game comes amiſs to him; but he is peculiarly flattered with the idea of delivering the country from wolves, of which he keeps an exact account; and, when I was at the Eſcurial, the number he had ſhot was eight hundred and eighteen. Whenever one is heard of within a reaſonable diſtance, a multitude of people, from ſixteen hundred to two thouſand, according to the extent of the mountain, are ſent out to watch, ſurround, and drive it into ſome ſpot, where the king may have the beſt chance for killing it. To theſe he gives ſix reals each; but if he kills the wolf, the watchmen have double pay. This expence, it muſt be confeſſed, is needleſs; becauſe a few peaſants would often be ſufficient, either to deſtroy the enemy, or make him

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him quit the country; but where a good ſovereign has pleaſure in a purſuit, his ſubjects will be the laſt to think, that he can purchaſe it too dearly. It were happy, however, for Spain, were this the whole expence; but it certainly bears a ſmall proportion to the ſum total of what the nation loſes by the king's rage for hunting. All round the *ſitios*, or royal manſions, the waſtes are of vaſt extent. I am informed, that the foreſt of the Pardo is thirty leagues in circumference; and if to this be added, all the uncultivated land near Aranjuez, S. Ildefonſo, and the Eſcurial; if, moreover, we conſider that the deer, being unconfined, range freely over the intermediate country, how high will be the eſtimate! It is true, the king pays the farmers to the utmoſt for the damages they ſuffer; but then, the injury ſuſtained by the community cannot be ſo eaſily compenſated, becauſe the country, wanting food, is depopulated, and the villages are gone to ruin.

I have been told by thoſe, who are beſt acquainted with the king, that in his youth he had acquired a taſte for letters, but being checked in that purſuit, he had given ſcope

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ſcope to the family propenſity, a propenſity not only now confirmed by inveterate habits, but encouraged in himſelf with a view to avoid entanglements. He is certainly a man of principle, and is univerſally allowed to be one of the moſt virtuous men in his dominions; but this purity of morals he himſelf attributes to his mind being conſtantly amuſed, and not to his natural conſtitution.

I prolonged my ſtay at the Eſcurial, chiefly for the purpoſe of being preſent at the *Batida*, or royal hunt, of which there are four every year. This was ordered for the 28th of November, previous to the departure of the court.

On the day appointed, Mr. Liſton had the goodneſs to place me with the Neapolitan ambaſſador, who, as repreſenting one of the family, gave a ſumptuous repaſt upon the occaſion; and in his carriage I proceeded to the ſcene of action. It was an extenſive plain, with a riſing ground commanding it, and, at the diſtance of about half a mile from this eminence, roſe a little wood, in which the king, with his three ſons, were hid, attended by their ſervants.

For

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For many days previous to this, two thouſand men had been diſperſed in parties over the whole country to diſturb the game, and to drive it towards the common centre, by patroling night and day, and conſtantly, yet ſlowly, drawing nearer to each other. Soon after we had occupied our ſtation on a riſing ground, we began to ſee the deer at a vaſt diſtance bounding over the plain from every quarter, and making towards the fatal ſpot. As they approached, we heard, faintly at firſt, then more diſtinctly, the ſound of guns, and ſaw the confuſion of the game, moving quick in all directions, but changing their courſe at every inſtant, as if uncertain where to look for ſafety. When the ſcouring parties came firſt in ſight, they appeared to be ſeparated by intervals, and to confine the game merely by their ſhouts and by the firing of their arms; but as they advanced upon the plain, they formed a wall, and as they drew nearer, they ſtrengthened this by the doubling of their ranks, compelling thus the game to paſs in vaſt droves before the royal markſmen. Then began the carnage; and for more than a quarter of an hour the firing was inceſſant. Some of the

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the deer, who had either more diſcernment than the reſt, or a better memory; who were actuated by ſtronger fears, or, perhaps, by more exalted courage, abſolutely refuſed to proceed, when they approached the ambuſcade; and, making a quick turn, notwithſtanding the ſhouts, the motions, and the firing of the guards, they leaped clean over their redoubled ranks, and eſcaped into the woods.

When the firing ceaſed, the carriages all advanced towards the wood, and the company alighted to pay their compliments, and to view the game. We found part of it ſpread in two rows upon the field of battle, and the king, with his ſons, ſurveying it. The game-keepers were returning loaded with ſuch as had been mortally wounded, but had yet eſcaped to a conſiderable diſtance; and, as faſt as they arrived, they depoſited the ſpoil at the ſovereign's feet. Having the curioſity to count the numbers, I found one hundred and forty-five deer, with one wild boar. Whilſt thus engaged, I heard a murmer, and ſaw every one in motion. Directing my attention to the ſpot

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to which all were preſſing, I ſaw at a diſtance a little company coming with a boar tied neck and heels together, and ſlung upon a pole. As they approached; the monarch and his ſons, arming themſelves afreſh, drew up in a line, and ſtanding at a convenient diſtance, the burthen was depoſited; the cords, one after another, were cut; and the poor crippled animal was aſſaying to move, when a well directed volley freed him from his fears.

The expence of that day's ſport was reckoned at three hundred thouſand reals, or, in ſterling, three thouſand pounds.

In the evening, the game, as uſual, was all depoſited in the room where the king took his ſupper, and there the family ambaſſadors attended to pay their compliments. By family ambaſſadors are underſtood thoſe of Naples, Portugal, and France, who having more free acceſs, and being expected to pay more minute attention, think it incumbent upon them to expreſs their intereſt in every thing, which gives him pleaſure, and not only congratulate him upon theſe great occaſions, but every night, whilſt he is at

ſupper,

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ſupper, make inquiries, and afterwards inform their friends, what the king has killed.

Mr. Liſton, deſirous of quitting the Eſcurial previous to the departure of the court, ordered a *Coche de Colleras* to be ready the day after the Batida. This precaution is taken by the foreign miniſters to ſecure mules, becauſe, when the court is in motion, no leſs than twenty thouſand being required for their uſe, the whole country is laid under an arreſt, and neither horſe nor mule can be obtained for any other purpoſe.

In this little journey I was exceedingly diverted and ſurpriſed with the docility of the mules and the agility of their drivers. I had travelled all the way from Barcelona to Madrid in a *Coche de Colleras*, with ſeven mules, and both at that time, and on ſubſequent occaſions, had been ſtruck with the quickneſs of underſtanding in the mule, and of motion in the driver; but till this expedition, I had no idea to what extent it might be carried. The two coachmen ſit upon the box, and, of the ſix mules, none but the two neareſt have reins to guide

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them; the four leaders being perfectly at liberty, and governed only by the voice. Thus harneſſed, they go upon the gallop the whole way, and when they come to any ſhort turning, whether to the right or to the left, they inſtantly obey the word, and move all together, bending to it like a ſpring. As all muſt undergo tuition, and require frequently ſome correction; ſhould any one refuſe the collar, or not keep up exactly with the reſt, whether it be, for example, Coronela or Capitana; the name pronounced with a degree of vehemence, rapidly in the three firſt ſyllables and ſlowly in the laſt, being ſufficient to awaken attention, and to ſecure obedience, the ears, are raiſed, and the mule inſtantly exerts her ſtrength. But, ſhould there be any failure in obedience, one of the men ſprings furious from the box, quickly overtakes the offending mule, and thraſhes her without mercy; then, in the twinkling of an eye, leaps upon the box again, and calmly finiſhes the tale he had been telling his companion. In this journey I thought I had learnt the names of all the mules, yet one, which frequently occurred, created ſome

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ſome confuſion, becauſe I could not find, to which individual it belonged, nor could I diſtinctly make out the name itſelf. It ſounded like *Caglioſtra*, and led me to imagine that the animal was ſo named after the famous impoſtor Caglioſtro, only ſuiting the termination to the ſex, becauſe the mules in harneſs are uſually females. In a ſubſequent journey the whole difficulty vaniſhed, and my high eſtimation of the mule, in point of ſagacity, was confirmed. The word in queſtion, when diſtinctly ſpoken, was *aquella otra*; that is, *you other alſo*; and then ſuppoſing Coronela and Capitana to be pairs, if the coachman had been calling to the former by name, *aquella otra* became applicable to the latter, and was equally efficacious as the ſmarteſt ſtroke of a long whip; but if he had been chiding Capitana, in that caſe, *aquella otra* acted as a ſtimulus to Coronela, and produced in her the moſt prompt obedience.

We did not leave the Eſcurial till four in the afternoon, and at half after ſeven arrived at the duke of Berwick's, where we had been engaged to ſpend the evening, having travelled ſeven leagues in about three hours and an half.

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MADRID.

BEING thus returned to the capital of Spain, where I ſpent the ſubſequent winter, it may not be improper to give ſome idea of the life a ſtranger leads here, with a few obſervations on the manners of the age.

Having been once introduced at court, you are at liberty to go as often as you pleaſe. I availed myſelf frequently of this privilege, both for the ſake of viewing the paintings at my leiſure, and for converſation, becauſe at court is the general rendezvous, where men of diſtinction aſſemble every morning to pay their compliments to the ſeveral branches of the royal family, whilſt they are at dinner, and to talk of what is paſſing in the world.

When the king gets into his coach, to go out, as uſual, to his favourite amuſement, the

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the company retires; and, as the corps diplomatique is here remarkable for hoſpitality, a perſon well recommended is never at a loſs for the moſt genteel ſociety at all hours of the day. Gratitude requires that I ſhould expreſs my obligations, in this place, to thoſe, not only of the foreign miniſters, but others, who honoured me with their friendſhip and protection. I ſhall therefore take the liberty of deſcribing briefly the kind of life I led whilſt I was near the court.

Count Florida Blanca muſt certainly claim the firſt place in my remembrance; for although at Madrid he gave no entertainments, yet in the ſitios he had always the goodneſs to admit me into the number of his gueſts, when he gave his weekly dinners. From our own miniſter I every where experienced, not merely that general protection, which he gives to all, and thoſe minute attentions, for which he is univerſally admired, but the kindneſs, hoſpitality, and friendſhip of a brother. His houſe was at all times open to me, and when he gave a dinner to his friends, I never was forgotten.

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My invitation to the duke de la Vauguion's was both general and ſpecial. Here the dinners were magnificent, the company numerous, and the converſation intereſting; and here I dined more frequently, than at any other table in Madrid, attracted, however, neither by the magnificence of the entertainment, nor by the company which reſorted to the houſe, ſo much as by the eaſe and elegance of the duke and dutcheſs, and the lovely ſimplicity of their children.

With the American, Ruſſian, and Pruſſian miniſters, I felt perfectly at home; and not much leſs ſo with thoſe of Genoa and Venice. The other foreign miniſters often honoured me with invitations, and I was always happy in accepting them.

Whenever I wiſhed to cultivate the ſciences, or to converſe with men of letters, I frequented the more humble, but not leſs hoſpitable, tables of ſome native Spaniards, where I never failed to meet with a kind reception. With Izquierdo and Angulo, I increaſed my knowledge in mineralogy; and on whatever ſubject I was deſirous of gaining information, I was ſure to meet with ſatisfaction, either from them or from their

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their friends. Ortega has been already mentioned as a botaniſt; D. Fr°. Bayer will always be remembered as a polite ſcholar; and D. Juan Bautiſta Muñoz will be celebrated as an hiſtorian, whenever he ſhall favour the public with his work on the conqueſt of America. Don Joſeph Clavijo deſerves the higheſt commendation, as a faithful and elegant tranſlator, and as a man of general information. Beſides theſe, I met with two brothers Fernandez, who have diſtinguiſhed themſelves in chemiſtry, and the Abbé Guevara, who excels in his knowledge of Spaniſh hiſtory, and political œconomy. With all theſe gentlemen I was upon a moſt friendly footing.

I dined frequently with the marquis Imperiali, a grandee of Spain, moſt deſervedly admired for the goodneſs of his heart, and the ſoftneſs of his manners; and once I had the honour to dine with the marquis de Ovieco, who is likewiſe a grandee.

This gentleman is pointed out as an example of an old Spaniard; and, if from one individual we might venture to form a general idea of a community, the politeneſs, probity,

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probity, and true dignity, conſpicuous in his whole deportment, muſt fill us with the higheſt reverence and eſteem for the Spaniſh nation.

Like the French, the Spaniards drink their wine at dinner; but as ſoon as they have finiſhed their deſert, and taken coffee, they retire to their couch.

When they riſe from the fieſta, they get into their carriages to parade up and down the parado, never going faſter than a walk. As they move ſlowly on in one direction, they look into the coaches, which are returning in the other, and bow to their acquaintance every time they paſs. On ſome high days I have counted four hundred coaches, and, on ſuch occaſions, it requires more than two hours to proceed one mile.

At the cloſe of day, people ſay the uſual prayer; then wiſh each other a good evening, and begin retiring to their houſes, where they take their refreſco of chocolate, with biſcuits and a glaſs of water.

When you are properly introduced into a Spaniſh family, you are told at parting, "Now, Sir, you are maſter of this houſe;"

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but the extent of the grant muſt be judged of by your own natural ſagacity; becauſe, ſuch is the politeneſs of a Spaniard, that he makes uſe of this expreſſion, when nothing more is meant than that you are at liberty to call upon him; accordingly you ſee many retire before each meal, or drop in after it: but when it is taken in its full extent, the grant means dinner, refreſco, ſupper, any or all, whenever it may ſuit you to partake of them.

Moſt families, eſpecially the great, have their tertulla, or evening ſociety for cards and converſation, after which, they, who are upon a footing of intimacy, ſtay and partake of a little ſupper. At theſe evening meetings you ſee the ſame faces from day to day. The ſociety I chiefly frequented was at the dutcheſs of Berwick's; but I went often to the dutcheſs de la Vauguion's, ſometimes to the counteſs del Carpios, and too ſeldom I viſited count Campomanes. Now and then, with a view to get an inſight into the nature of ſociety, I wandered away to other families, but not meeting any one, with whom I had been previouſly acquainted, beſides the lady of the family, I was ſoon weary,

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weary, and could ſeldom prevail upon myſelf to prolong my ſtay.

Without any diſparagement to the reſt, I may venture to ſay, that the ſociety at the dutcheſs of Berwick's was the moſt pleaſing. It was frequented by the foreign miniſters, and, not only were the dutcheſs and her ſiſter, the princeſs of Stolberg, moſt engaging in their manners, but the eaſe and freedom, which every one enjoyed, made the time paſs delightfully. The dutcheſs herſelf, and three of her friends, occupied a whiſt table, ſome ſeparated themſelves for converſation, and the princeſs commonly, for a part of the evening, amuſed herſelf with drawing, under the inſpection and tuition of the Pruſſian miniſter, who, for taſte and execution, is one of the firſt maſters in that line. Others were engaged at the piana forte. For my part, I commonly took up my pencil, and profited by the leſſons given to the princeſs. At eleven o'clock we ſat down to an elegant ſupper, and about one in the morning I retired, having nearly two miles to walk. The duke generally came home to ſupper, but he

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he ſeldom ſat long before he retired to his bed.

At the dutcheſs de la Vauguion's the ſociety was chiefly French. The amuſements were cards, tricktrac, and cheſs, concluding with a ſupper.

At the counteſs del Carpio's all were Spaniards, excepting one Italian, and the amuſement was ſome game at cards. The evening cloſed with a light ſupper. The count was commonly at home before ten, and, except when at the play-houſe, he ſpent his evenings in his family. He is a ſenſible man, and well informed; and the counteſs muſt give life to every ſociety, where ſhe is found. She is far from handſome; yet, from the ſprightlineſs of her wit, and the ſoftneſs of her manners, ſhe is highly intereſting, and the more ſo from her delicacy of conſtitution, and the weakneſs of her health.

Count Campomanes gives no ſuppers, and cards are ſeldom ſeen; but his converſation fills up the time, and renders all other ſpecies of amuſement needleſs. The ſociety is chiefly from the Aſturias, where he was born.

Beſide

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Beſide theſe quiet tertullas, all through the winter the dutcheſſes of Berwick and Vauguion gave balls once a week, and the counteſſes of Cogulludo and Peñafiel gave concerts and balls, attended with ſplendid ſide-boards of ices, cakes, and jellies. After the ball, every one retired to ſupper with his own ſociety.

When you pay a viſit to a lady, (for, wherever there is a lady in the family, the viſit is to her) you neither knock at the door, nor aſk any queſtions of the porter, but go ſtraight forwards to the room where ſhe uſually receives her company, and there you ſeldom fail to find her, morning, noon, and night; in winter, ſitting near the braſier, ſurrounded by her friends, unleſs when ſhe is gone out to maſs. The friends are moſtly gentlemen, becauſe ladies ſeldom viſit in a familiar way; and, of the gentlemen thus aſſembled, one is commonly the *Cortejo*; I ſay commonly, becauſe it is not univerſally the caſe. During the whole of my reſidence in Spain, I never heard of jealouſy in a huſband, nor could I ever learn, for certain, that ſuch a thing exiſted; yet, in the conduct of many ladies, whether it proceeds

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proceeds from the remains of delicacy, from a ſenſe of propriety, or from fear, you may evidently ſee caution, circumſpection, and reſerve, when their huſbands are in ſight. Some have addreſs enough to keep the cortejo in concealment; and this, in Spain, is attended with no great difficulty, becauſe, when the ladies go to maſs, they are ſo diſguiſed, as not to be eaſily diſtinguiſhed. Their dreſs upon that occaſion is peculiar to the country. They all put on the *baſquiña*, or black ſilk petticoat, and the *mantilla*, which ſerves the double purpoſe of a cloak and veil, ſo as completely, if required, to hide the face. Thus diſguiſed, they are at perfect liberty to go where they pleaſe. But ſhould they be attended by a ſervant, he is to be gained, and therefore he becomes little or no reſtraint. Beſides this, every part of the houſe is ſo acceſſible by day, and the huſband is ſo completely nobody at home, ſo ſeldom viſible, or, if viſible, ſo perfectly a ſtranger to thoſe, who viſit in his family, that the lover may eaſily eſcape unnoticed. This, however, will not always ſatisfy the Spaniſh ladies, who, being quick of ſenſibility, and remarkable

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able for ſtrong attachment, are miſerable, when their cortejo is out of ſight. He muſt be preſent every moment in the day, whether in private or public, in health or ſickneſs, and muſt be every where invited to attend them. There have been recent examples of women, even of high faſhion, who have ſhut themſelves up for months, during the abſence of their cortejos; and this, not merely from diſguſt, but to avoid giving them offence. If the lady is at home, he is at her ſide; when ſhe walks out, ſhe leans upon his arm; when ſhe takes her ſeat at an aſſembly, an empty chair is always left for him; and if ſhe joins in the country dances, it is commonly with him. As every lady dances two minuets at a ball, the firſt is with her cortejo, the ſecond with a ſtranger; with the former, if ſhe has any vivacity, ſhe makes it viſible, and if ſhe can move with grace, it then appears; but with the latter ſhe evidently ſhews, not indifference, but diſguſt; and ſeems to look upon her partner with diſdain.

As ſoon as any lady marries, ſhe is teaſed by numerous competitors for this diſtinguiſhed favour, till ſhe is fixed in her choice; when

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when the unſucceſsful candidates either retire, or ſubmit to become, in future, what may be called cortejos of the braſier, without any pretenſions beyond that of ſitting round the embers to warm themſelves in winter.

It is reckoned diſgraceful to be fickle; yet innumerable inſtances are ſeen of ladies who often change their lovers. In this there is a natural progreſs; for it cannot be imagined, that women of ſuperior underſtandings, early in life diſtinguiſhed for delicacy of ſentiment, for prudence, and for the elevation of their minds, ſhould haſtily arrive at the extreme, where paſſion triumphs, and where all regard to decency is loſt. As for others, they ſoon finiſh the career. It is, however, humiliating to ſee ſome who appear to have been deſigned by nature to command the reverence of mankind, at laſt degraded, and ſunk ſo low in the opinion of the world, as to be never mentioned but with contempt. Theſe have changed ſo often, and have been ſo unfaithful to every engagement, that, univerſally deſpiſed, they end with having no cortejo.

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I have obſerved, that jealouſy is ſeldom, if ever, to be diſcovered in a huſband; but this cannot be ſaid in favour of the new connection, becauſe both parties are tormented by ſuſpicion. This, it muſt be confeſſed, is natural; for, as both are conſcious that there is no other bond between them, but the precarious tie of mutual affection, each muſt tremble at the approach of any one, who might interrupt their union. Hence they are conſtantly engaged in watching each other's looks, and for want of confidence, renounce, in a great meaſure, the charms of ſocial intercourſe. Even in public, they ſeem to think themſelves alone, abſtracted and abſorbed, attentive only to each other. He muſt not take notice of any other lady; and if any gentleman would converſe with her; in a few minutes ſhe appears confuſed and filled with fear, that ſhe may have given offence. In all probability ſhe has; and ſhould ſhe be the firſt dutcheſs in the kingdom, and he only a non-commiſſioned officer in the army, ſhe may be treated with perſonal indignity; and we have heard of one who was dragged by the

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hair about the room. But if, inſtead of giving, ſhe ſhould happen to have taken the offence, even the more delicate will fly like a tygreſs at his eyes, and beat him in the face till he is black and blue. It ſometimes happens, that a lady becomes weary of her firſt choice, her fancy has fixed upon ſome new object, and ſhe wiſhes to change; but the former, whoſe vanity is flattered by the connection, is not willing to diſſolve it. In lower life, this moment gives occaſion to many of thoſe aſſaſſinations, which abound in Spain; but, in the higher claſſes, among whom the dagger is proſcribed, the firſt poſſeſſor, if a man of ſpirit, maintains poſſeſſion, and the lady dares not diſcard him, leſt an equal combat ſhould prove fatal to the man of her affections. In this conteſt the huſband is out of ſight, and tells for nothing.

In a catholic country, with ſuch depravity of morals, it may be naturally inquired, what becomes of conſcience, and where is diſcipline? It is well known, that all are under obligation to confeſs, at leaſt once a year, before they receive the euchariſt. Every one is at liberty to chooſe his con-

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feſſor and prieſt; but before he leaves the altar, he takes a certificate that he has been there, and this he delivers to the curate of his own pariſh, under pain of excommunication, ſhould he fail to do ſo. When, therefore, a married woman appears, year after year, before her confeſſor, to acknowledge that ſhe has been, and ſtill continues to be, living in adultery, how can he grant her abſolution, or how can he be moderate in the penance he enjoins. Without penance, and unleſs the prieſt is ſatisfied that there is contrition, with full purpoſe of amendment, there can be no abſolution; without abſolution, no participation of the euchariſt; and, in the neglect of this, excommunication follows. Yet, from the univerſal prevalence of this offence, we may be certain, that there muſt be ſome way of evading the rigour of the law. Nothing is more eaſy. As for the penance, it is impoſed by thoſe, who can have compaſſion on the frailties of mankind, and is therefore ſcarcely worthy to be mentioned. In many inſtances, it is ridiculous. Were any confeſſor ſevere, he would have few at his confeſſional. The abſolution is commonly a more

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more ſerious buſineſs; becauſe the penitent muſt not only teſtify contrition, but muſt give ſome token of amendment, by abſtaining, at leaſt for a ſeaſon, from the commiſſion of the crime, which is the ſubject-matter of confeſſion. The firſt abſolution may be eaſily obtained; but when the offender comes, year after year, with the ſame confeſſion, if he will obtain abſolution, he muſt change his confeſſor; and this practice is not only diſgraceful, but ſometimes ineffectual. Here, then, it is needful to adopt ſome new expedient. Two naturally preſent themſelves: for, either ſome prieſt, deſtitute of principle, may be found, who, for certain conſiderations, will furniſh billets; or elſe, which is a prevailing practice at Madrid, the common proſtitutes, confeſſing and receiving the holy ſacrament in many churches, and collecting a multitude of billets, either ſell, or give them to their friends. I have certificates before me. As theſe carry neither name nor ſignature, they are eaſily transferred. They are ſimply thus: *Comulgò en la Igleſia parroquial de San Martin de Madrid. Año de mil ſetecientos ochenta y ſeis.*

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The principal cortejos in the great cities are the canons of the cathedrals; but where the military reſide, they take their choice, and leave the refuſe for the church. In the country villages, the monks bear rule; at leaſt within their limits, and even in the cities, they ſet up their pretenſions. As for the parochial clergy, one thing is certain, that many of them have families, and all are involved in the common cenſure. Even in the Aſturias, my friend, the good biſhop auxiliary of Oviedo, a man of high principle, yet of great humanity, ſevere only to himſelf, but compaſſionate to others, made it a rule, that none of his curates ſhould have children in their families. This ſacrifice, at leaſt, he inſiſted they ſhould make to decency. Beyond this he did not think it right to be too rigid in his enquiries. In ſhort, during my reſidence in Spain, I never found one perſon inclined to vindicate the curates from the common charge; but, at the ſame time, all, with united voices, bore teſtimony to the ſuperior virtue of the biſhops. Indeed, theſe venerable men, from all that I could hear, and from what I ſaw in the near approach, to which they graci-

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ouſly admitted me, for purity, for piety, for zeal, can never be ſufficiently admired; but too few of the clergy, either ſecular or regular, till they begin to look towards the mitre, ſeem to think it neceſſary, that they ſhould imitate theſe bright examples, or aſpire after ſuch high perfections.

This univerſal depravity of morals, if I am not much miſtaken, may be traced up to the celibacy of the clergy. It is true, the example of the court, ſince the acceſſion of the preſent monarch, has given prevalence to practices which were before reſtrained, and made that honourable, which had been attended with diſgrace; but the effect muſt always, in a meaſure, have been coeval with its cauſe. Nay, ſhould we be inclined to blame, in the firſt inſtance, the Italians, who are ſaid to have brought this practice into Spain, we ſhould be obliged at laſt to trace it up to this miſtaken principle, that *conjugal affection is inconſiſtent with the due diſcharge of the miniſterial functions*. In converſing freely with the clergy on this ſubject, I never met any one, beſides the archbiſhop of Toledo, who attempted to vindicate this principle; and

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wherever I was, I had no difficulty in declaring war againſt it, becauſe they do not conſider it as an article of faith. The principle is abſurd; yet upon it is founded the celibacy of the clergy, and from that, in my opinion, is derived the corruption of their morals. It has been common for proteſtants, who travel in a catholic country, to inveigh againſt the clergy, and to laugh at the people, as prieſt-ridden: ſuch abuſe is exceedingly illiberal. The prieſts themſelves are to be pitied; but the law which binds them, the cruel law which requires, that they ſhould offer violence to nature, or, more properly, the power which can abrogate that law, ſhould bear the blame.

The purpoſe of the law is however fruſtrated; for nature is like a rapid river, which, checked in its progreſs, ſcorns reſtraint, and, when diverted from its proper courſe, either overflows the country, or forms new channels for itſelf. What then is gained? The parochial clergy, and theſe are the only clergy who ſhould be ſuffered in a ſtate, have their connections and their children, but not as they ought, in the moſt

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moſt honourable way. They are diſgraced in the eyes of the people, who are taught by their example to live in the violation of the laws; and their children, for want of a proper education, are fitted only for the vileſt employments in the community. How different is the picture, where marriage is allowed. The miniſter is like the father of his pariſh, and his wife performs the office of a mother; both ſet an example of virtue, and in every village teach the peaſants how to value their domeſtic comfort. In the ſtreet, their children, commonly a numerous offspring, are diſtinguiſhed by their look of health, by their cleanlineſs, and by the decency of their conduct; and, when ſent out into the world, they form the moſt valuable members of ſociety.

Should the Spaniſh government reſolve to ſet the clergy free; more ample proviſion muſt be made for their maintenance, becauſe at preſent it is ſcarcely ſufficient for their own ſupport; and this might be eaſily accompliſhed out of the vaſt revenues of the biſhops, or by the ſuppreſſion of ſome uſeleſs convents.

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The play-houſes in Madrid are not much frequented: the genius of the people does not aſſimilate with this ſort of amuſement. This will evidently appear by the receipts at the two theatres; for, taking the average between them in December, they each produce fifty pounds a night, but ſome nights leſs than twenty pounds; and, even in the Chriſtmas week, not more than ſeventy-ſix. They have lately introduced the opera, but with little proſpect of ſucceſs; becauſe moſt of the genteel people keep to their own ſocieties, except when they attend the balls.

Few people here diſcover any love for the ſciences. The cabinet of natural hiſtory is open to all the world, but it is not frequented; and although D. Antº. Fern. Solano, the royal profeſſor of experimental philoſophy, in point of clearneſs, elegance, and preciſion, may be reckoned among the firſt in Europe, and delivers his lectures gratis, yet nobody attends him. Books are little read; all who are not engaged in buſineſs, are occupied in their attendance on the ladies, with whom nothing of this kind is heard of.

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In conſequence of proper introductions, I had an opportunity of ſeeing moſt of the principal manſions in Madrid. The firſt, without exception, in point of magnificence, is the duke of Alba's. The principal front is to the ſouth, and is two hundred feet in length, with eighty-five windows. The eaſtern and weſtern fronts will be ſix hundred feet when finiſhed; yet in this vaſt pile there is not one room ſuitable to the rank and fortune of its lord. The upper ſtories will be occupied by four hundred bed-chambers, which are ſcarcely ſufficient for the family, conſidering that all the ſuperannuated ſervants, with their wives and children, are to be lodged and penſioned there. The duke informed me, that he paid one hundred thouſand reals, that is, one thouſand pounds, a month, in wages only at Madrid.

For commodiouſneſs and elegance, no houſe in Madrid is equal to the duke of Berwick's. Built on a declivity, with the principal front towards the weſt, it occupies, like other Spaniſh houſes, the four ſides of a ſquare, yet is perfectly modern, both in ſtyle and furniture. You enter

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ter a ſpacious hall, then, aſcending a wide ſtaircaſe, you find a ſuit of magnificent apartments, communicating all round, and, upon the ſame level with the garden to the ſouth and to the eaſt. From this circumſtance, all the ground floor is kept exceedingly cool for a ſummer's reſidence, and the principal apartments are warm and comfortable in winter. Such an habitation would be ill ſuited for the accommodation of numerous domeſtics, with their widows and their children, deſcending by tradition from his anceſtors; and therefore the duke, very wiſely, is ſatisfied with giving them ſmall penſions, and leaves them to provide a lodging for themſelves.

He was ſo obliging as to let me ſee his accomptant's offices, in which he has introduced a ſyſtem of œconomy little known in Spain. They conſiſt, as uſual, of four departments, but then in theſe he has only one accomptant general, with three clerks; one principal ſecretary, with three under him; one treaſurer, and one keeper of archives, with an aſſiſtant. On all his eſtates he has ſimilar eſtabliſhments, but upon a ſmaller ſcale. His whole property produces,

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duces, groſs, one million eight hundred and eighty-eight thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-three reals, and from this deducting three hundred and forty-one thouſand nine hundred and eight, for the charge of management, it netts one million five hundred and forty-ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five reals, or £. 15,467 ſterling.

The late duke of Arcos had more than three hundred people in his eſtabliſhment at Madrid. The marquis of Peñafiel, who is married to the young dutcheſs of Benevente, and is at once duke of Oſſuna, of Arcos, of Vejar, of Candia, &c. &c. with an income of about fifty thouſand pounds ſterling, employed, when I was at Madrid, twenty-nine accomptants, including his two ſecretaries, and I underſtand that he has ſince increaſed their number; beſides theſe, he has an advocate, and a family phyſician, for whom, with his principal ſecretary and his treaſurer, he keeps four carriages.

The duke of Medina Cœli has thirty accomptants in Madrid, beſides vaſt eſtabliſhments on his eſtates, more eſpecially in Catalonia, moſt of which belongs to him, and

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and in the province of Andaluſia, where he has extenſive property. His ſon, the marquis de Cogolludo, who has a ſeparate eſtabliſhment, informed me, that he himſelf paid, only at Madrid, thirty thouſand reals a month, or near four thouſand pounds a year in ſtipends to his ſervants.

It is difficult to eſtimate what, with good management, would be the revenue of theſe great lords. Such a property as the duke of Alba's, producing under adminiſtration eighty thouſand pounds a year; what would it not yield, if let out to ſubſtantial farmers? If, whilſt they plough, and ſow, and reap, and thraſh, and ſell, and eat, and drink, upon the duke's account, he receives ſuch an income; what would it be if every inch of land were made productive, and if that produce were expended with œconomy? With ſuch vaſt poſſeſſions, well managed, he might live in ſplendor little inferior to the greateſt ſovereigns of Europe. But, inſtead of this, devoured by their ſervants, they are moſt of them in debt; and, under the feeling of poverty, live exceedingly retired, ſcarcely venturing

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venturing at any time to give a dinner to their friends.

In many of their houſes you find good pictures, collected by their anceſtors; but, as for the preſent generation, they ſeem to have little taſte for the polite arts: their time and attention appear to be loſt in trifles. Among the houſes where the works of the beſt maſters are to be ſeen, the principal are thoſe of Alba, Medina Cœli, Santiago, Infantado, and Santeſtevan. In the former is a very numerous and ineſtimable collection; and, among them, the portrait of the preſent duke, by Mengs; and the great duke of Alba, by Titian; a Venus, by Velazquez; a Holy Family, by Raphael; and the famous School of Love, by Correggio. In this beautiful picture, Venus and Mercury are teaching Cupid to read: it was ſold in London, with other valuable pictures of Charles I. All theſe pictures were, when I ſaw them, crowded in the old manſion of the family, and therefore appeared to diſadvantage; but, whenever they ſhall be cleaned and properly diſpoſed, this will be evidently a moſt capital collection. All the other collections are in the higheſt preſervation,

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vation, except thoſe of the late duke of Santeſtevan, now the property of his ſon-in-law, the marquis of Cogolludo, which, although ineſtimable, as being the works of the moſt ancient artiſts, are wholly neglected, and ſuffered to decay. The marquis was ſo polite as to attend me and the Pruſſian miniſter to ſee them, and witneſſed our lamentations over them.

During my winter's reſidence at Madrid, I endeavoured to get ſome inſight into the revenue, and, I truſt, it will be found that my labour was not in vain: yet, after all my enquiries, I am inclined to think, that till ſome great financier, like Mr. Necker, ſhall ariſe in Spain, the confuſion which reigns at preſent will continue to prevail in this department of the ſtate.

Whilſt the taxes were collected by farmers general, it was eaſy to know the rent they paid; but now that all is in adminiſtration, to come exactly at the produce and expenditure will be attended with ſome difficulty. Were the whole peninſula on the ſame footing, were all punctual in their payments, and were the diſburſements from one common treaſury, this reſearch would be

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be expedited; but, as not one of theſe circumſtances exiſts, we muſt take the materials as we find them, and do the beſt we can. I ſhall endeavour to give ſome idea both of the revenue and its expenditure, founded on authentic documents, procured from the foreign miniſters, and compared with an official paper, with which I was favoured from the treaſury. But firſt, it will be neceſſary to point out the various articles which yield revenue, and to explain the terms relating to finance, briefly premiſing ſuch an hiſtorical relation as can be collected from Spaniſh writers on the ſubject.

The principal reſources of the crown for ſupporting its dignity, were anciently found in the demeſnes of the ſovereign; but when, during a minority, or a diſputed ſucceſſion, theſe had been plundered by the great nobility, he was obliged to ſolicit grants from the national aſſemblies. Thus it was with Alonzo II. who, after he had compelled ſome of his barons to reſtore the lands taken from himſelf and from his immediate predeceſſor during their infancy, finding theſe unequal to his wants, in the year

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1342, he obtained from the cortes, then aſſembled at Burgos, an *alcavala*, or tax upon all property transferred, to defray his expences at the ſiege of Algeciras. Many cities had given him a fifth on the value of all commodities diſpoſed of by ſale or barter, but when granted by the ſtates, the tax was fixed at ten per cent. and made univerſal over Caſtille. Whilſt Peter, ſurnamed, but perhaps improperly, the Cruel, driven from his kingdom, was a fugitive in France, Henry, his natural brother, having been proclaimed king (A. D. 1361.) the cortes granted the alcavala, without any limitation with reſpect to time, as a mark of their ſtrong attachment to the ſovereign of their choice. But neither was this grant, nor the aid of France, ſufficient to eſtabliſh the uſurper on the throne; for Peter, powerfully ſupported by Edward, prince of Wales, at the head of thirty thouſand men, gave him battle, and compelled him to retire. When Peter had thus regained his ſceptre, and began to meditate revenge againſt the pope, Urban V. who had excommunicated him; his holineſs readily found means to appeaſe the indignation

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of the offended monarch, by granting him the royal thirds, or two-ninths of all the tythes collected in Caſtille, under pretence of a croiſade. Peter took the money, and increaſed his army, but not with the leaſt intention of ſtrengthening himſelf againſt the infidels. He had more formidable enemies at home, and to them he bent his whole attention; but in vain, for the prince of Wales having retired in diſguſt, his father, Edward III. was not inclined to continue his ſupport. When, therefore, Henry appeared in the field once more, attended by moſt of the principal nobility, Peter fell. This was in the year 1369.

At the commencement of the ſucceeding century, Henry III. being obliged to aſſume the reigns of government, when he was aged fourteen, in order to prevent a civil war; on his acceſſion to the throne he found his treaſury exhauſted, and whilſt his great barons were rioting over the ſpoils, which they had ſeized during his minority, he himſelf was reduced to the laſt extremity of want. It is related of him, that returning one day from hunting, and aſking

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for ſomething to eat, his ſteward told him plainly, that he had neither money nor credit to procure a joint of meat; "Then," ſaid he, "take my cloak, and pawn it." He was not, however, ſatisfied with venting his indignation in empty words; but, rouſed by hunger, he obliged his nobles to reſtore the caſtles, and to renounce the penſions, which the regent had been compelled to grant them.

A. D. 1500, when the wealth of America began to flow into Spain, the internal revenue of the country ceaſed to be an object of attention, and the miniſters of finance looked chiefly to the mines of Peru and Mexico for their ſupplies. But before one century had elapſed, the phantom vaniſhed: the treaſury, exhauſted by inceſſant wars, had contracted a load of debt, ſuch as the country was unable to ſupport; and, to pay the expences of the invincible armada, new taxes were invented, under the denomination of *Millones*, ſo called, becauſe the grant was for eight *millions* of ducats. (£.878,906. 5s.) To this the cortes, ſome years after, added twenty-four millions, to be collected in ſix years; of which, four and an half

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was impoſed on ſalt, the other nineteen and an half on wine, oil, vinegar, and butcher's meat.

The country was not in a condition to be taxed. Rich in mines, but poor in money; exhauſted by continued wars in Italy, in Flanders, and by emigrations to America; wanting, at the ſame time, every encouragement to induſtry at home; wretchedneſs ſo univerſally prevailed, that Dr. Moncada, in the year 1660, and Oſorio, in 1686, reckoned more than three millions in Spain, who wore no ſhirts, becauſe they could not afford to purchaſe linen. Money was at that period lent commonly for twenty, and even thirty, per cent.; and if remitted to Italy or Flanders, the diſcount was from fourteen to fifty per cent. being the difference of value between *vellon* or copper, in which the taxes were received, and gold or ſilver, in which remittances were made; and this heavy diſcount was independent of the exchange, which, as may be readily conceived, was very high. (Camp. E. P. Apend. 4. p. 274.) Such was the ſtate of their finance in the reign of Philip IV. His ſucceſſor, Charles II.

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who died at the end of the ſeventeenth century, was once reduced to ſuch diſtreſs, that, as appears, by a letter to be ſeen in his own hand writing, he ſolicited money from the council of Caſtille to pay the expences of his removal with his court to Aranjuez, where he was going for his health. The council anſwered, that, if upon examination, there was no other way to reſtore his health, they would grant the money.

We may readily imagine that the receipts at the treaſury were inconſiderable, when we caſt our eye upon their accounts, and, ſo late as 1714, ſee them wholly kept in maravedis, of which four are nearly equal to a farthing.

At the beginning of the preſent century, Philip V. ſucceeding to the crown of Spain, found only a revenue of ten million livres, or £.416,666, and no money in the treaſury; but, in the ſuperior abilities of the preſident Orry, he had inexhauſtible reſources. This great man, who accompanied the young prince from France, and became his miniſter, raiſed the revenue nearly to two millions ſterling; and, at the

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end of an expenſive war, left the treaſury not only free from debt, but with conſiderable ſums in bank. In the year 1714 he retired.

Previous to this period, the taxes were farmed, and the people were grievouſly oppreſſed, not merely by the farmers general and by their judges, but by others who rented under them. The poor peaſants were robbed and plundered with impunity, their cottages were ſold, and they were left to periſh, or when, unable to ſatisfy theſe harpies, they took refuge in a convent, their neighbours were obliged to make up the deficiency. To remedy theſe abuſes, the new monarch thought it expedient to reunite many of the leſſer farms; and, to prevent the vexation of his ſubjects, he recommended moderation to the farmers. His recommendation remained without effect. The farmers continued to nominate and to pay the judges, the judges continued to oppreſs the people, and the people continued to utter their complaints. When, however, the new miniſter who ſucceeded Orry reflected that, whilſt the taxes continued to be farmed, the people muſt be

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ſubject to oppreſſion, at his entrance into office, in the year 1714, he put the whole revenue in adminiſtration; but, at the end of two years, he reluctantly conſented to renew the farms.

After this ſhort reſpite, when the galling yoke was laid upon their necks again, and the farmers were once more armed with power to oppreſs them, the people became impatient, and their clamours reached the throne; yet to little purpoſe for a ſeaſon, becauſe the neceſſities of the ſtate were pleaded, and whilſt Philip lived, the evil complained of was only palliated, but not removed.

A. D. 1746, on the acceſſion of Ferdinand VI. D. Martin de Loynaz undertook to plead with him the cauſe of a much injured people, as D. Michael de Zavala had done with his father Philip, but with more effect; for his miniſter, the marquis de la Enſenada, wholly aboliſhed the farms; and from that period they have never been reſtored. In conſequence of this new regulation, the magiſtrates of all the cities and diſtricts in the twenty-two provinces of Caſtille, adminiſter the provincial rents, and remit

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remit the produce to Madrid, receiving ſix per cent. for their trouble in collecting.

To reduce the ſubject of taxation to a ſyſtem, we might divide and ſubdivide, till our attention ſhould be loſt in claſſes, orders, genera, ſpecies, and varieties, but as this, in the preſent caſe, would not in the leaſt contribute to clearneſs and preciſion, I chooſe rather to adopt an alphabetical arrangement.

Annats, called *Medias Annatas*, is a tax of half a year's revenue from the grandees and titular nobility on coming to their eſtates, or ſucceeding to any office. The marquis de Squilace was fond of this reſource, and, ſince his time, near one thouſand titles have been granted. From the clergy, the ſovereigns of Spain received no annats, excepting only in America and in the conquered provinces, till the *concordat*, A. D. 1753, between Lambertini and Ferdinand VI; but ſince that time they are no longer ſent to Rome. With theſe are included the *eccleſiaſtical months*, being one-twelfth of all benefices under three hundred ducats, or £.33 nearly, and this rated according to the ancient valuation. Since

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theſe grants, the pope, A. D. 1783, gave in reverſion to the king one-third of all ſimple benefices, which are worth more than two hundred ducats per annum, to take place as faſt as vacancies occur. For the remainder of the public revenue ariſing from the church, ſee alſo *excuſado* and *effects of the camara*, with *ſubſidy*, from all which may be collected the increaſing and almoſt inexhauſtible reſources of the crown.

Apoſento, or *Caſa de Apoſento*. When Philip V. ſucceeded to the throne, his intention was to have made Seville the ſeat of his dominion; but the citizens of Madrid prevailed upon him to change this reſolution, by offering him a ſum of money, on condition that he ſhould continue with them. This was afterwards changed for a rent-charge of one third on all the houſes, with liberty of redemption at twenty-five years purchaſe.

Brandy is one of the royal monopolies. The king takes one-eighth of all the ſpirits as a tax, the reſt he claims a right to purchaſe, paying for brandy twenty-two reals the arroba of twenty-eight pounds, and for ſpirit of wine, twenty-eight reals; the former

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former he ſells at ſixty-four reals, the latter at one hundred. At this rate Madrid conſumes ninety thouſand arrobas, or about five thouſand hogſheads of brandy, beſides eighteen thouſand arrobas of ſpirit of wine. The cities agree upon a compoſition for theſe duties.

Cards are another of the royal monopolies.

Catalonia and *Arragon*. Under this article is comprehended the *cataſtro* of Catalonia with the equivalent for Arragon, Valencia, and Majorca.

Cruſades. The bull of the cruſades grants the ſame indulgences as were uſually diſpenſed by the popes to thoſe, who went to make a conqueſt of the Holy Land, extending theſe in the firſt inſtance to thoſe, who ſhould perſonally make war upon the infidels; in the ſecond, to thoſe who ſhould ſend a deputy; and, in the laſt place, to ſuch as ſhould aid, by liberal contributions, the ſoldiers engaged in this holy war.

The indulgences are,

1°, To eat fleſh on faſt-days, with the conſent of their phyſician and confeſſor, and,

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and, even without their conſent, to take eggs and milk.

2°, That for every day they faſt voluntarily, and pray for union among chriſtian princes, with victory againſt the infidels, they ſhall be excuſed fifteen years and fifteen forty hours of penance impoſed upon, or in any manner due from them; and moreover, ſhall partake of all the prayers, alms, pilgrimages, even to Jeruſalem, which ſhall be performed by the church-militant, or by any of its members.

3°, That, viſiting five altars, or five times one altar, and praying as above, they ſhall obtain plenary indulgences for themſelves, or for any of their departed friends, in whoſe favour they ſhall perform this.

4°, That, once in life, and once at the time of their deceaſe, they may obtain from their confeſſor remiſſion, even of thoſe ſins reſerved for the pope, excepting hereſy, and of other ſins, as often as they confeſs.

5°, That, dying ſuddenly without confeſſion, they ſhall obtain the ſame plenary indulgence

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dulgence as if they died under contrition.

6°, That, viſiting five altars, and praying as above, on the days ſpecified in the calendar, of which there are eleven, they may, by their prayers, for each day, deliver a ſoul from purgatory.

7°, That, paying for two copies of the bull, a perſon may twice in one year enjoy all the indulgences, favours, and privileges mentioned above, and gain double the benefit he might claim on having purchaſed one.

For this bull the nobles pay about ſix ſhillings and four pence, the commons about two ſhillings and two pence in Arragon, but ſomething leſs in the kingdom of Caſtille. Even the ſervants purchaſe theſe; and ſuch is the demand, that they are reckoned to produce more than £.200,000 *per annum*. No confeſſor will grant abſolution to any one, who has not this bull.

The *effects of the camera* ariſe from vacant benefices. By the concordat, A. D. 1753, the kings of Spain enjoy not only the nomination to eccleſiaſtical preferments, which formerly was in the popes, but they take the

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the benefit of vacancies, and ſeize the ſpoils of the prelates, that is, their moveables, together with the effects of all clergymen dying inteſtate. Theſe are called *eſpolios y vacantes*. The pope, indeed, names to fifty-two beneſices, but then he muſt appoint Spaniards, who muſt not pay *cedulas bancarias*, or ſtipulated ſums, to the apoſtolic ſee, nor high intereſt in lieu of a ſtipulated ſum. Count Campomanes ſtates the eſpolios y vacantes, at ſix millions of reals *per annum*. V. Induſtria Popular. p. 35.

Excuſado. In every pariſh, the king chooſes the beſt farm, whether for olives, corn, or vines, of which he takes the tythes both in Caſtille and Arragon. The clergy formerly agreed with him for this. Afterwards it was farmed by the *gremios*, or five united companies of Madrid, at twelve millions of reals; but, in the year 1778, the clergy had the grant at one third leſs. Moſt of them accepted the offer; but they, who thought themſelves too poor to venture, refuſed, and theſe farms are let to the gremios at four millions. The gremios have been accuſed of having availed themſelves of this bargain, to purchaſe corn in all the country

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country villages, when it is cheap, to lodge it in their granaries, and then, ſelling it out again at a high price, to ſtarve the people, and enrich themſelves.

Extraordinary effects ariſe from ſeizures; from licenſes to export goods in the regiſter ſhips; and from the duty on the exportation of money. The amount is ſtated only at thirty-five millions; but ſometimes it has been a hundred. This properly ſhould go to the aduana, or cuſtom-houſe.

Fines of the camera are levied by the council of Caſtille on magiſtrates tranſgreſſing.

The *Indian revenue* will be conſidered by itſelf. It amounts, in America, to near four millions and an half ſterling; but although variouſly ſtated in the ſubſequent ſchedule as productive of revenue, it is doubted whether it yields a profit, or becomes a loſs to Spain.

Lances. This tax is paid in lieu of military ſervice, and is, for dukes, counts, and marquiſſes, two hundred ducats, or about £.22 for each title; but a grandee pays eight thouſand reals. It is ſtiled, *Pecuniaris compenſatio pro haſtatis militibus.*

Lead

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Lead is a royal monopoly, and muſt be moſt uncertain in its produce.

Manufactures of cloth and glaſs are ſtated as yielding a revenue. The glaſs is made at S. Ildefonſo, and is chiefly for mirrors, becauſe the glaſs for common uſe is imported into Spain. It is to be feared, that neither the glaſs, nor yet the cloth, yield any profit to the nation. It is impoſſible they ſhould.

The *maſterſhips* of the three orders of Calatrava, Alcantara, and of S. Iago, were granted by the pope to Ferdinand and Iſabella, and ſettled in perpetuity on the ſovereigns of Spain by Adrian, to expreſs his gratitude to Charles for having raiſed him to the papacy. As grand maſter of theſe military orders, the king of Spain has the diſpoſal of nearly two hundred military fiefs, amounting in the whole to the yearly value of fifteen millions of reals, which may be conſidered as part of the national revenue, although not carried to account. If theſe were properly improved and cultivated, they would be worth, as I am well informed, more than ten times as much.

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The *notaries*, each pay two hundred ducats on his admiſſion.

The *paſture* of the maſterſhips ariſes from extenſive meadows belonging to the three great orders: and the paſture of the *ſerena* is from a tract of country in Eſtremadura, formerly conſiderable, but from the frequent grants made by the crown to the great nobility, now ſo far reduced as to yield only about five and twenty hundred pounds of our money; whereas, ſo late as the year 1722, Uztariz ſtates the value at more than two millions and an half of reals, or about twenty-ſix thouſand pounds *per annum*.

Poſts and Couriers. Theſe were formerly the private property of the counts d'Onate, grandees of Spain, but they now form one of the moſt valuable branches of revenue to the ſtate. Mr. Wall eſtabliſhed a regular poſt to America; but, before his time, the Spaniſh ambaſſador to the Engliſh court was inſtructed to procure, at London, information of all that was paſſing in Spaniſh America, and to tranſmit that information to his court.

The Propios and Arbitrios. Cities formerly levied taxes on waſte lands granted to pri-

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vate people, and on provifions, for the expence of their municipal government; but the king now takes two *per cent.* on the produce, for general uſe.

General Rents are the duties levied in the ſea-ports.

The Provincial Rents are, 1°, the *Alcavalas* of ten *per cent.* on every thing ſold or bartered, whether uſed in huſbandry or manufactures, to be paid every time the property is transferred; together with four *per cent.* laid on, at ſubſequent periods, to the original tax. 2°, *Millones*, granted by the cortes, A. D. 1601, for ſix years, but ever ſince collected, being eight maravedis, or about a halfpenny a pound for butchers meat and ſuet ſold in the market; and eight reals for every carcaſe, whether brought to market, or killed for the uſe of private families. Under this grant, wine, vinegar, and oil, pay one-eighth on the price, eſtimating wine at ſixty-four maravedis the arroba, vinegar thirty-two, and oil at fifty. 3°, *Fiel medidor*, which is another duty on wine, vinegar, and oil, of four maravedis the arroba, granted, A. D. 1642. 4°, *The royal thirds*, or three ninths of the tithes, firſt granted

to

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to the Spaniſh monarchs, A. D. 1274. 5°, *The ordinary* and *extraordinary ſervice*, granted A. D. 1580; a tax on every thing belonging to thoſe, who are not noble, that is, *hidalgos*, or knights.

Eccleſiaſtics being free from the alcavala, the millones, and all municipal taxes, called *arbitrios*; they are refunded every year according to their conſumption.

All theſe provincial rents, in the year 1778, produced one hundred and thirty millions of reals; yet, ſo late as the year 1745, they were farmed at ninety millions.

Rents of Madrid, called alſo *Efectos y ſiſas de Madrid*, and *Rentas de arrendamiento*, are the produce of the alcavala and millones of that city, and of five leagues round, farmed by the gremios.

Patrimonial rents ariſe from thirds, tithes, reſerved rents, and lands let to farm, in Catalonia, Arragon, Valencia, and Majorca.

Rent of the priory of S. Juan, or S. John, is mentioned only by Uztariz, becauſe it was afterwards granted to the infant Don Gabriel.

The ſalt-works yield a conſiderable revenue. Theſe were formerly conſidered as

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private property; but, in the year 1348, they were taken by Alonſo II; and, in 1564, Philip II. ſeized them as a part of his demeſne. The chief of them are in Andaluſia, Valencia, Catalonia, and Majorca. The ſalt-works of Mata, in the kingdom of Valencia, would eaſily furniſh one million and an half fanegas, of about one hundred pounds weight, which, could they find a market, would, at twenty-two reals the fanega, make three hundred and thirty thouſand pounds ſterling *per annum*; but, by raiſing the price, they have leſſened the demand: ſo that the whole amount of the kingdom is only about two thirds of what one work alone might furniſh.

Stamp-duties were introduced in 1637.

Subſidy is one *per cent.* granted by the pope to the kings of Spain, upon all eccleſiaſtical rents in their dominions, for the war againſt the infidels.

Saltpetre, ſulphur, and *gun-powder*, ſealing wax, quickſilver, and tobacco, are all royal monopolies. Of the latter I ſhall ſpeak more particularly, when I come to treat of Seville. It was granted by the cortes, A. D. 1336.

Wool.

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Wool. In the year 1437, a tax was impoſed on all wool in general, called *Servicio y montazgo*; but, to encourage the production, this was changed by Ferdinand VI. into a duty on *fine* wool *exported.* The coarſe wool is kept at home.

In my ſchedule, the Indian revenue is ſtated by Uztariz at forty millions, and by count de Grepi, the imperial conſul, at more than ten times as much. The former means the nett produce; the latter takes the groſs amount. Mr. Liſton's average of ten years agrees nearly with Uztariz; but Mr. Carmichael, the American envoy, ſtates ſixty millions. The fact, however, is, if we may believe thoſe who are the beſt informed, that the Spaniſh colonies yield no direct revenue to the mother country. This being the caſe, I cannot conceive upon what authority, the Abbé Raynal ſtates the clear revenue from America at thirty-four millions five hundred thouſand livres, or, in reals vellon, at one hundred thirty-eight millions clear, beſides eighty-two millions three hundred thirty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred reals paid for duties in Europe.

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Count de Grepi ſtates the revenue in America as follows:

	Reals Vellon.
Cuſtoms on European commodities, according to the years 1785 and 1786, -	42,240,000
Alcavala on ditto, introduced A. D. 1591, - -	54,120,000
Tobacco rent in New Spain and other provinces, introduced A. D. 1752, - -	100,000,000
Duties on gold and ſilver exported, - - -	60,000,000
Tribute of the Indians, -	40,000,000
Cruſades, introduced A. D. 1509, - - -	20,000,000
Quickſilver ſold, - -	6,000,000
Stamp-duties, introduced A. D. 1641, - -	20,000,000
Coinage, - - -	6,000,000
Acapulco trade, - -	10,000,000
Sale of the herb Mathé, -	10,000,000
Sale of paper on the king's account, - -	10,000,000
Rents of the Jeſuits, -	8,000,000
Cards, and other monopolies,	6,000,000

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Rents of the Philippines,	-	30,000,000
Tax on negroes,	- -	4,000,000
R^{s} vellon		426,360,000

The alcavalas on American productions are omitted, as are alſo ſome other taxes, of which the count was not able to procure any information.

The following ſchedule will ſhew the produce of the taxes in the royal treaſury. To reduce the reals to pounds ſterling, drop the two laſt figures, becauſe one pound is equal to one hundred reals vellon.

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A Digeſt of the SPANISH REVENUE, taken from authentic Documents.

	Uſtariz, 1722.	Official account, 1768.	Count de Grepi 1774.	Zienowieff, 1778, by approximation.	Carmichael, average of 5 years.	Liſton, average of 10 years, 1778.
Annats medias annatas	—	521,110	1,382,060	1,300,000	1,470,000	1,986,000
Apoſento on houſes M	—	—	1,133,714	1,200,000	1,000,000	1,084,257
Brandy	—	—	4,524,817	4,525,000	1,500,000	
Cards	—	289,863	1,493,367	1,500,000	1,000,000	400,233
Catalonia and Arragon	33,980,000	—	—	47,000,000	30,529,303	32,109,481
Coinage	—	—	—	—	140,000	235,779
Cruſades	with ſubſidy	17,293,740	17,782,380	20,000,000	16,000,000	11,052,209
Effects of the Camera	—	—	785,639	786,800	—	340,237
Excuſado	with ſubſidy	11,908,700	2,133,166	12,000,000	10,000,000	8,525,000
Extraordinaries	—	—	53,965,131	35,000,000		
Fines of the camera	302,000	—	71,314	72,000	950,000	711,030
Indian revenue	40,000,000	—	426,360,000	240,000,000	60,000,000	39,899,918
Lances	500,000	—	—	card to annats	1,590,000	card to annats
Lead	—	1,226,900	1,217,886	—	450,000	3,241,097
Lottery	—	—	4,079,416	4,500,000	—	4,192,000
Manufacture of glaſs, St. Ild.	—	—	1,230,326	—	— }	6,213,686
——— of cloth	—	—	1,758,692	—	— }	

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Masterships of military orders	240,000	1,484,845	—	1,800,000	2,600,000	1,128,050
Notaries	—	—	61,688	62,000		
Pasture of masterships	511,170	424,457	847,186	—	3,000,000	426,645
—— of Serena	2,602,120	258,948	124,679	140,000	—	
Posts	2,484,060	—	—	34,000,000		
Powder and saltpetre	—	1,091,021	—	—	1,200,000	2,835,344
Public houses in Madrid	—	—	195,284	196,800		
Proprios and Arbitrios	—	—	425,233	500,000	—	1,196,005
Rents general Aduana	25,023,444	55,944,822	48,030,602	48,060,000	31,949,102	70,584,604
—— provincial	61,801,630	90,825,110	62,583,706	130,000,000	73,010,902	97,948,256
—— of Madrid	2,352,960	—	6,417,551	6,418,552	5,500,000	6,538,856
—— patrimonial	1,820,310	—	—	—	741,800	
—— of S. Juan	229,070					
Salt works	17,000,000	23,633,251	19,937,194	20,000,000	20,749,208	26,508,384
Stamp duties	891,950	4,127,269	4,311,866	4,312,000	3,300,000	2,489,308
Subsidy	14,000,000	3,576,497	4,831,850	car[d]toExcusado	3,530,000	5,865,310
Sulphur	—	117,431	—	—	—	305,311
Tobacco	24,278,030	66,866,319	68,960,855	80,000,000	70,000,000	67,138,082
Wool	—	12,602,304	14,458,271	14,500,000	16,549,767	17,397,745
Sundries	4,930,000	—	—	—	3,615,000	6,912,008
	232,946,744	292,192,587	749,103,873	707,873,152	360,375,082	417,264,835

Copy

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Copy of an Official Paper, ſtating the Revenue as it ſtood A. D. 1768.

	Rents.	Perſons employed.	Salaries.	Expences.	Nett produce in reals vellon.
Paſtures of the Serena	280,977	12	17,100	4,929	258,948
Maſterſhips of military orders	4,158,486	17	15,764	2,657,877	1 484,845
Tobacco	101,226,189	18,291	21,878,505	12,481,365	66,866,319
Rents, general and aggregate	67,259,482	4,433	6,540,248	4,744,412	55,944,822
Salt works	37,200,610	—	3,935,979	9,641,380	23,633,251
Paſture of maſterſhips	458,847	16	30,220	4,170	424,457
Provincial rents	102,113,467	2,249	7,016,836	4,271,521	90,825,110
Lead duty	1,668,126	100	441,226	—	1,226,900
Cards	724,355	8	12,433	422,059	289,863
Powder and ſaltpetre	3,401,041	117	570,054	1,739,965	1,091,021
Sulphur	242,567	5	31,198	93,938	117,431
Bulls of cruzade	18,663,440	49	354,253	1,015,447	17,293,740
Stamp duties	5,545,745	104	330,530	1,087,946	4,127,269
Excuſado	12,000,000	13	91,300	—	11,908,700
Subſidio	3,576,497	—	—	—	3,576,497
Medias annatas	633,610	14	112,500	—	521,110
Wool, and aggregrate rents	14,998,284	223	584,505	1,811,475	12,602,304

I pro-

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I procured from the foreign miniſters various ſtatements of the expenditure, ſuch as they tranſmitted to their ſeveral courts, but the one with which I was moſt ſatisfied, I had from D. Eſtevan Zienowieff, ambaſſador from Ruſſia, confirmed by that of Mr. Liſton, our own miniſter, on whoſe accuracy I could depend.

EXPENDITURE. 1778.

	Reals Vell.	
To royal *houſhold* - - -	24,000,000	
To penſions to the princes - -	10,000,000	
To royal chapel - - -	2,000,000	
To penſions for ſuperannuated ſerv^ts -	3,000,000	
To wardrobe and jewellery - -	8,000,000	
To journies to the ſitios - -	15,000,000	
To ſtables - - - -	12,000,000	
To hunting, including damages -	18,000,000	
To charities and offering - -	5,000,000	
To buildings - - - -	9,000,000	
To ſecret ſervices of the court -	2,000,000	Reals Vellon.
		108,000,000
To *military*, for life guards - -	18,000,000	
To infantry, 45 regiments of 953 -	39,235,810	
To militia, 10,880 - - - -	5,848,036	
To artillery, with officers, 3,050 -	4,439,008	
To invalids, 7,200 - - -	6,289,357	
To engineers - - - -	1,400,000	
To cavalry, 14 regiments of 480 -	10,581,815	
To dragoons, 8 regiments of 480 -	5,763,882	
To general officers - - -	3,600,000	
To treaſurers, commiſſaries, &c. -	10,344,282	
To fortifications - - -	12,000,000	
To clothing, forage, &c. - -	74,021,389	

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To widows of officers and orphans -	4,378,615	
To military hoſpitals - - -	5,800,000	
To recruiting ſervice in foreign countries - - - -	700,000	
To department of council of war -	1,000,000	
To miniſter of war and comis - -	800,000	
		204,202,194
To *navy*, for 64 ſhips of the line, and 47 frigates, 50,000 ſailors, 12,096 marines - - - -	—	100,000,000
To department of the *Indies* - -	—	8,000,000
To department of finance - -	—	4,500,000
To ditto of juſtice - - -	—	1,100,000
To tribunals of juſtice - - -	—	8,422,769
To *foreign* department for the miniſter and his comis - - -	1,140,000	
To ambaſſador at Rome - -	900,000	
Ditto at London - - -	710,000	
Ditto at other courts - - -	6,003,162	
To couriers, conſuls, and ſecret ſervice - - - - -	6,000,000	
		14,753,162
To china manufactory at Retiro -	436,188	
To Goblin tapeſtry and Perſian carpet - - - - -	397,100	
To painters, architects, and penſions	440,000	
To academy, cabinet, and library -	900,000	
To hoſpitals - - - - -	400,000	
To highways and canals - -	4,000,000	
To penſions to ſtrangers, and incidents - - - - -	3,300,000	
		9,873,288
To intereſt of their debts, and liquidation - - - - -	—	30,000,000
Total reals vellon - -	—	488,851,413

In

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In the preceding eſtimate, the china manufacture at the Buen Retiro is made debtor only four hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand one hundred and eighty-eight reals; but, from the extent of the concern, and from a more minute account received from Mr. Carmichael, I am inclined to think that one million has been inadvertently omitted: it would then ſtand one million four hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand one hundred and eighty-eight reals. Beſides this miſtake, if it be one, the expence of the glaſs manufacture is here overlooked, which Mr. Carmichael ſtates at one million one hundred and thirty-ſix thouſand eight hundred and eighty-four; and the loſs by the cloth manufactures, which is not ſtated. Yet, in the government returns, the manufactures of glaſs and cloth are reported to yield, on the average of ten years, ſix million two hundred and thirteen thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-ſix reals profit.

From an attentive examination of all that I have been able to collect, I am perſuaded that the revenue has not for many years been equal to the expenditure; and whilſt I was

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I was at Oviedo, in the year 1786, the miniſter of the finance, in his circular letter ſent through all the provinces, urged the collectors to diligence and ſtrict attention in the collection of the taxes, becauſe the expences of government were forty millions of reals more than the revenue. Since I quitted Spain, the revenue is increaſed, and from good authority I underſtand, that the laſt ſtatement of Mr. Eden is five hundred millions, or five millions Britiſh, and that now they have a ſurplus of revenue to diſcharge former debts.

The debts are of various kinds; ſome ancient, others more recent. The former date their origin from the revolt of the Belgic provinces, A. D. 1566; and a conflict of more than three and forty years, during which, contracting a debt of two hundred million of dollars, Spain, without effect, attempted to reduce them, left ſuch derangement in her finances, that ſhe has ever ſince been crippled in all her operations, when at any time ſhe hath found herſelf engaged in war. The country, exhauſted by this long continued conteſt, cried univerſally for peace, and Philip III.

A. D.

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A. D. 1609, although he would not acknowledge the ſovereignty of the new republic, conſented to a truce: but his ſucceſſor, having other views, provoked hoſtilities, carried on a very expenſive war, and before he conſented to the peace of Munſter, and to the independancy of the United Provinces, A. D. 1646, diſcovered that he had doubled the debt; which, therefore, amounted to about ſixty millions of our money.

The principal creditors were the Genoeſe, and other foreign merchants, to whom, as ſecurity for payment of the principal with intereſt, government aſſigned certain portions of the revenue; which were denominated *juros*, becauſe they paſſed like other property, either by deſcent or transfer.

Theſe Genoeſe, and other foreign merchants, being, after the expulſion of the Jews, the chief farmers of the revenue, and being at the ſame time the principal creditors, are accuſed of innumerable frauds againſt the public, and this with both the connivance and participation of the clerks and comptrollers of the treaſury. When their evil practices were brought to light, they

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they ſold their *juros* to the natives, to the gremios, to the convents, and to the principal nobility; yet frauds continued, and thus adminiſtered, the intereſt of the debt ſwallowed up the whole of the revenue.

In order, therefore, to redeem the *juros*; the tax called millones, or a ſpecies of exciſe already ſpoken of under the article of provincial rents, was granted by the cortes: yet the deficit continued. In conſequence of this, many, whoſe anceſtors had purchaſed *juros*, were happy to ſell them at a loſs of ninety per cent. whilſt the Genoeſe and ſtrangers, ſtill farmers of the revenue, being purchaſers, paid them back for rent to government at par.

Theſe abuſes did not eſcape the notice of the writers, who were moſt diſtinguiſhed for their abilities and zeal: but government paid no attention to this branch of political economy. Much ſalutary advice was given, although to little purpoſe, and no ſtep was taken to remedy this evil, till the dynaſty was changed, and an heir of the houſe of Bourbon ſucceeded to the throne.

This monarch, Philip V. reduced the intereſt,

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intereſt, which had originally been five, ten, or even fifteen per cent. to three, which was the legal ſtandard; but it was not till 1749, that a board was eſtabliſhed and commiſſioners appointed to examine the *juros*, and to ſettle accounts with the proprietors. Campomanes Ed. Pop. Apend. i. 211—250. Ap. iv. 36—380.

At different periods conſiderable debts have been diſcharged, paying thoſe proprietors who made the moſt advantageous offers to the ſtate, and were willing to part with their intereſt in the revenue on the loweſt terms: but at the ſame time the ſum total of the debt, if we take into conſideration the arrears of intereſt, has been conſtantly increaſing.

To give a more diſtinct idea of this incumbrance, I ſhall, on the authority of Count Campomanes, ſtate the debt for which the millones or exciſe duties of Madrid have been given as ſecurity, and from this inſtance we may form ſome judgment of the reſt; obſerving here, as I have done frequently already, that by dropping the two laſt figures you convert the reals into pounds.

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This debt, A. D. 1685, was 187,500,000 reals, the intereſt of which at five per cent. would have been 9,375,000 reals, but the exciſe duties of Madrid being farmed at 8,841,176 reals, there was conſequently a deficit.

	Reals vellon.
A. D. 1775. The debt, ſome portion of which bore intereſt at three, whilſt the remainder by compact ſtood at two and a half per cent. was found to be increaſed to, - - -	206,782,159
Arrears of intereſt to creditors, - - -	74,872,546
Due from the Junta de Abaſtos to the Gremios, -	6,002,624
D° — to the Junta de Siſas, - - -	4,987,220
	292,644,549
Deduct paid off with conſiderable voluntary loſs to creditors, - - -	5,643,546
Total of the debt, -	287,001,003

From

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From this ſtatement it is viſible that ſince the year 1685, including arrears of intereſt, this part of the public incumbrance, inſtead of being leſſened, is increaſed nearly a hundred millions of reals, or one million ſterling.

The ſecond claſs of public debts are thoſe contracted by the emperor Charles V. in his raſh wars. Theſe amounted, according to the abbé Raynal, to one thouſand million of livres tournois; which, at twenty-four livres to the pound, is £. 41,666,666. But the intereſt of this being then more than the whole revenue, the ſtate, in the year 1688, became bankrupt.

At the death of Charles II. and the acceſſion of a new family, public credit was reſtored; and, in leſs than half a century, Philip V. availing himſelf of this reviving confidence, contracted freſh engagements, to the amount of near ſeven millions ſterling. His ſucceſſor, Ferdinand VI. conſulted the moſt learned caſuiſts in his empire upon this queſtion, whether a ſovereign is bound to pay the debts of the preceding monarch? This ſimple queſtion was ſolemnly determined in the negative.

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It being therefore ſettled, that the king ſhould not diſcharge theſe engagements, Ferdinand accumulated treaſure, and left his coffers well repleniſhed. Charles III. found, according to the abbé Raynal, one hundred and ſixty million of livres in his treaſure on his acceſſion, and formed the pious reſolution of paying all his father's debts; but when he had expended half this ſum, he conſumed the remaining part in fruitleſs wars. Like his predeceſſors, to gain the good opinion of his ſubjects, he remitted all the arrears due for taxes, from the ſeveral provinces and cities of his empire, which to many of them was no ſmall favour, becauſe, excepting Galicia, moſt of them are very tardy in their payments.

Thus matters ſtood, till the Spaniards entered into the laſt war for the emancipation of America; when, feeling diſtreſs for want of money, the miniſter thought of trying how far he could avail himſelf of paper credit; an expedient little ſuited to the genius of a deſpotic government, and leaſt of all to one, which had never ſhewn regard to public faith. He began with iſſuing nine million of dollars, in fifteen thouſand

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ſand notes of ſix hundred dollars each, bearing intereſt at four per cent. Of this tranſaction I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak further, when I come to treat of the new bank, which has ſo far reſtored the credit of this paper, that, from being at twenty-four per cent. diſcount, it now bears a premium.

Government avows the emiſſion of twenty-eight million ſeven hundred and ninety-nine thouſand nine hundred dollars, at three ſeveral periods during the war; but profeſſes to have withdrawn one million two hundred thouſand; ſo that, eſtimating the dollar at three ſhillings, the whole of this debt is £.4,139,985, and the annual intereſt of this £.165,599, a trifling incumbrance, when compared to the debts of France and England. The *juros* are not here to be carried to the account, becauſe they are deducted out of the groſs produce of the revenue, and the amount I have ſtated is only what it clears.

All good Spaniards have exclaimed againſt the operation of their taxes; and, in conſequence of theſe expoſtulations, as far as relates to foreign trade, government has ſo

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regulated the cuſtoms upon imports and exports, upon goods manufactured, and upon raw materials, as to encourage home productions; but then the alcavalas and millones operate ſo powerfully againſt theſe proviſions, that the manufacturer cannot lift up his head, nor ſtand the competition with nations, who are bleſſed with a wiſer ſyſtem of finance.

The alcavala, with its four cientos, being a tax of fourteen per cent. on every thing that is ſold or bartered, even for oxen and mules uſed in huſbandry, for the raw materials uſed in manufactures, and for the commodity itſelf when ſold, and this not once for all, but as often as the property is transferred, were this tax collected with rigour, it would create either a general ſtagnation or reſiſtance, and, perhaps, ſome effectual remedy againſt it.

The operation of the millones is not more favourable to manufactures. This tax may be conſidered as an additional alcavala, under another name, confined wholly to proviſions, and is collected with ſuch rigour, that even private families are obliged to pay eight reals, or 1 *s.* 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* for every

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ſheep or pig killed upon their own eſtate, and deſtined for their own conſumption.

When the marquis de la Enſenada, prime miniſter to Ferdinand VI. turned his attention to this buſineſs, he ſaw clearly that Spain could never riſe up into conſideration under the preſſure of ſuch taxes, and therefore he conceived the idea of ſubſtituting in their place one contribution, to be ſettled according to every man's ability, the whole amount being equivalent to the ſum antecedently collected. For this purpoſe he eſtabliſhed a commiſſion of thirty thouſand perſons, to make the proper inveſtigations, and to carry his purpoſe into execution. Before he could accompliſh this arduous undertaking, his maſter died; Charles III. ſucceeded to the throne; and he was permitted to retire. His ſucceſſor, a man of ſingular abilities, never loſt ſight of ſo excellent a plan. This was the marquis of Squilace, who, having ſerved with the king in Italy, as commiſſary general, attended him to Spain, became his miniſter, and, by his intrigues, ſoon contrived that every power in the ſtate ſhould centre in himſelf. This extraordinary man has been accuſed

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of rapacity; but, however that may be, certain it is, that Spain, had he continued in office, would have had abundant reaſon to admire the wiſdom of his government. To him the people of Madrid are indebted, not only for the cleanlineſs of its ſtreets, but for their ſafety from aſſaſſins, becauſe he made them lay aſide their *capa* and their ſlouched hats, by which both their perſons and their purpoſes had been effectually concealed. This innovation, however excellent, this violence offered to deep rooted prejudices, excited indignation; and, being accompanied by an accidental ſcarcity of corn, raiſed a ſtorm, which nothing but his diſgrace was able to allay. The ſovereign himſelf felt the ſhock upon his throne, and fled with his favourite, but was ſoon prevailed upon to return, and to ſhew himſelf to his enraged people from the balcony, where the venerable count of Revillagigedo, viceroy of Mexico, on whoſe word they could depend, aſſured them that the object of their reſentment was diſmiſſed, and would never more return. The ſtorm ſubſided; Squilace retired to Italy; and thus, in one moment of popular frenzy, all his well

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well digeſted plans for the reformation of the finance, the encouragement of manufactures, and the renovation of the empire, were rendered ineffectual, and vaniſhed with himſelf.

The commiſſioners who were appointed to take the value of all the land, induſtry, and commerce of the twenty-two provinces comprehended in the kingdom of Caſtille, after having made a deduction of one-third for accidents, eſtimated the remainder at two thouſand one hundred and fifty-two millions one hundred and fifty-ſeven thouſand three hundred and ſixty-four reals vellon, or a little more than one and twenty millions and an half ſterling. Then having calculated the average of the provincial rents at one hundred and thirty-nine millions reals vellon, or £.1,390,000; to raiſe an equivalent for this ſum, it was found neceſſary to impoſe 6 $\frac{15}{17}$ per cent. on lands, houſes, induſtry, and commerce, including phyſicians, comedians, muſicians, ſervants, labourers, and artiſts, not excepting the clergy, who are ſtated as poſſeſſing two-fifths of all the cultivated land. For this purpoſe an edict was publiſhed in the year

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year 1770; but unfortunately, like ſome others, it remained without effect. One proviſion in this edict ſhewed the wiſdom of the head that formed it; for it was ordained that fertile land, although uncultivated, ſhould pay the tax.

We have ſeen, that the paper money iſſued by government was depreciated to twenty-four per cent. when M. Cabarrus, by the inſtitution of a national bank, reſtored the public credit, and ſaved the country. This gentleman is diſtinguiſhed for ſingular abilities, for a clear head, and for a ready elocution. I have related, on what occaſion I had firſt the happineſs of meeting him. He did me then the honour to take notice of me, and ever after admitted me when he had leiſure to entertain his friends.

The bank of S. Carlos is too ſingular in its hiſtory to be paſſed by in ſilence. It met with rough uſage in its beginning, but the indefatigable application of the projector, ſupported by the good ſenſe of count Florida Blanca, overcame all difficulties, and eſtabliſhed it on a firm foundation, if we may call that firm, which the breath

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breath of a weak monarch, or one ſtroke of the pen of a wicked miniſter, can overthrow. At the firſt inſtitution of the bank, it conſiſted of one hundred and fifty thouſand ſhares, at two thouſand reals each, conſtituting a capital of three millions ſterling, with liberty to add annually three thouſand ſhares, for thirty years, in order that there might not be one citizen of the Spaniſh empire excluded from this beneficial enterprize.

To create a confidence in the public, the directors were not to enter into any ſpeculation, except were the king ſhould give them a commiſſion, for foreign and diſtant commerce, or to favour the agriculture and manufactures of the kingdom; and to remove all occaſion of jealouſy, the bank was to have *no excluſive privilege*, nor any monopoly; they were to receive at par, and thereby to procure circulation for the government paper, even at a time when it was from twenty to twenty-four per cent. diſcount.

By way of recompence, or, as it was called, equivalency, they were to make all contracts for the feeding and clothing of the

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the army, and for the ſupply of the navy, receiving ten per cent. commiſſion for their trouble, and four per cent. per annum for all the money they ſhould advance. This grant was for twenty years. Beſide this, they were to have the *extraction*, or *the excluſive privilege* of exporting ſpecie, collecting from the merchant four per cent. for the uſe of government, and three for the bank. They were to have one per cent. on all remittances from the court of Madrid to its miniſters in foreign parts, and four per cent. for diſcounting bills. No entail was to be valid againſt the demands of the bank.

Notwithſtanding ſuch encouragements, the Spaniards had no confidence in this new eſtabliſhment, but either locked up their money in ſtrong cheſts, or ſolicited the gremios to take it in at a low intereſt, whilſt in France and Switzerland, monied men came into the ſcheme with ſuch avidity, that actions bore a premium of three hundred per cent. till ſuddenly a panic ſeized them, and the whole fabric was in danger of inſtant ruin and deſtruction.

To regain their confidence, the bank bought

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bought in many actions, and lent money at *four* per cent. to the ſtockholders on the ſecurity of their actions, engaging at the ſame time to pay them their dividend of *ſeven* per cent. or more, if it ſhould be due. This ſtrange manœuvre had the deſired effect; for the proprietors in Paris, borrowing money of the bank to the amount of twenty millions of reals, for which they were charged only four, whilſt, without any riſk, they received nine per cent. their former eagerneſs returned, and the demand for actions was every where renewed.

It cannot be imagined that the bank long perſevered in this ſtrange practice. Such conduct muſt ſoon have ſtript them of their capital; becauſe every proprietor would have borrowed money to the full value of his actions, and the bank would have been annihilated. Therefore, at the fourth general meeting it was reſolved, that no more than five hundred reals ſhould be advanced on one action of two thouſand.

The proſperous condition of this new eſtabliſhment will appear from a ſtatement of its annual gains.

A. D.

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A. D.		Reals vellon.	M^{s}.
1783	The bank gained -	3,301,255	8
1784	- - -	17,137,622	22
1785	- - -	48,346,675	18
1786	- - -	20,473,093	13

In this laſt year, the actioniſts divided only ſeven per cent.; but in the preceding they had nine, beſides inveſting twenty-one millions of reals in the new Philippine company, of which I ſhall hereafter treat. The reaſon of this difference in their profits, and the nature of their operations, will be clearly ſeen, by giving their reports to the proprietors at their annual meeting in the years 1785 and 1786.

1785.

	Reals.	M^{s}.
By intereſt on government paper - - -	3,569,533	27
By diſcount of bills -	1,260,519	18
By intereſt on money advanced on actions -	594,106	23
D° — for America -	503,118	32
D° — Proviſions of the army -	1,435,109	12
D° — Cadiz department	617,180	28

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	Reals.	Mrs.
By intereſt on money advanced on letters of exchange - -	1,411,904	5
By commiſſion of one per cent. for the crown -	253,164	14
D° — for America -	197,450	3
D° — Cadiz - -	870,913	29
By extraction of ſpecie, at three per cent. - -	11,883,656	23
By commiſſion of ten per cent. on proviſions -	3,066,763	3
D° D° for *preſidios* - -	407,024	32
D° D° of the navy - -	1,187,221	13
D° D° — timber - -	765,892	29
D° D° — iron - -	201,434	27
By increaſe of value on actions - - - - -	21,552,840	—
	49,777,835	12
Deduct expences -	1,431,159	28
Total gain -	48,346,675	18
Deduct inveſtment in Philippine company	21,000,000	—
Remains to be divided	27,346,675	18

1786.

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1786.

	Reals.	Mrs.
By intereſt on government paper - - - - - -	936,920	—
By diſcount of bills, deducting brokerage -	2,513,857	32
By intereſt of money advanced on actions -	2,386,803	15
By operations of the bank at Cadiz - - -	4,007,960	20
By letters of exchange for government - - -	20,602	15
By commiſſion of one per cent. for the crown -	247,264	28
Dº — for America -	3,963	1
By extraction of ſpecie at three per cent. - -	10,234,299	22
By profit on purchaſe and ſale of actions - - -	310,960	—
By increaſe of value on five thouſand four hundred and fifty-three actions bought in - - -	1,616,210	20
	22,278,842	17
Deduct charges of adminiſtration - -	1,805,749	4
Remains to be divided	20,473,093	13

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By this ſtatement it appears, that,

1ſt, The credit of the bank procured a ready circulation for the government paper; becauſe the intereſt of that proportion, which, during the courſe of the year, was in the poſſeſſion of the bank, ſunk from more than three millions and an half to leſs than one million.

2d, The diſcounting buſineſs increaſed to nearly double in the ſpace of twelve months.

3d, The intereſt for money advanced on actions, ſhews clearly, that the proprietors of one-fifth part of the whole capital had withdrawn their proportion; willing at the ſame time to take their chance for a dividend, at the ſole riſk of thoſe, who, from raſhneſs, from folly, or from inattention, neglected to follow their example.

4th, The extraction or exportation of ſpecie ſunk conſiderably. It was naturally to be expected that this ſhould be the caſe. Previous to the inſtitution of the bank, when government permitted the exportation of ſpecie, it was under a duty of four per cent. the average produce of which was about three millions of reals; but when it

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became the intereſt of the bank to watch the ſmuggler, the duties roſe to ſixteen millions. Merchants, however, when one road is ſtopped, exert their ſagacity to find out ſome other; and, where ſuch a commodity as ſilver is in queſtion, they eaſily ſurmount the obſtacles oppoſed to its exportation.

5th, One ſource of profit, producing more than five millions and an half in the year 1785, is, in the ſubſequent year, dried up. This matter requires to be explained.

The government being much diſtreſſed for money, had, as all ſpendthrifts are forced to do, borrowed on very diſadvantageous terms, and then repented of the hard conditions, to which it had conſented. The commiſſion of ten per cent. appeared exorbitant; and the vouchers produced by the directors of the bank, for the articles they had purchaſed on account of the army and the navy, were not ſatisfactory to the miniſter of the finance. Beſides theſe objections, the exhauſted treaſury was not in a condition to diſcharge its moſt reaſonable obligations to the bank, and to pay thoſe arrears which itſelf acknowledged to be juſt. All

was

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was in confuſion; the miniſter continued muttering his threats, and the projector of the bank was loud in his expoſtulations. The latter ſuggeſted, with great propriety, that, in a country, where juſtice and the laws were ſilent, and where arbitrary power prevailed, the miniſter might for once plunder and ſeize, with a ſtrong hand, the whole of their capital; but that, in ſuch a caſe, he muſt not expect to be truſted a ſecond time, and muſt therefore renounce for ever the idea of a bank. This argument was felt; and the miniſter determined, that the bank ſhould have the contract for the army and the navy at the ſame prices as had been laſt given to the gremios, and that this new regulation ſhould have a retroſpect. The bargain was thus made more advantageous for the public; but how far this tranſaction was agreeable to juſtice, it was for the miniſter of the finance to ſay.

The gremios, or the five incorporated companies of Madrid, have a joint capital, as factors, to purchaſe all commodities, and ſell to the retail dealers; the manufacturers being prohibited by law to ſell by retail. This body, with a conſiderable capital of

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its own, and borrowing as much, as it could employ, at two per cent. had all the contracts for the court, for the preſidios, and for the army, both for food and clothing; but ſince the eſtabliſhment of the bank, this monopoly has ſhifted hands; and government, inſtead of availing itſelf of the competition between the gremios and the bank, has delivered itſelf up to the latter, for the advancement of its credit.

But, as it would not be ſufficient to grant beneficial contracts, without fulfilling its engagements, government agreed to give an aſſignment of the four per cent. duties on the extraction of ſilver for three years, unleſs the arrears to the bank ſhould be previouſly diſcharged.

Upon coming thus to a mutual underſtanding, the directors of the bank agreed to advance money for making a canal from Guadarama, at the foot of the Sierra which divides the two Caſtilles, to Seville, and to ſuperintend the work, receiving ten per cent. commiſſion, and four per cent. per annum, for all the money they ſhould expend.

I might proceed to give ſome idea of the Philippine company, in which the bank has

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has engaged two hundred and ten thouſand pounds ſterling, as I have already ſtated; but this I ſhall reſerve till I come to Cadiz, when I ſhall have occaſion to treat of commerce, and more eſpecially of the trade carried on between the mother country and its colonies.

The population of Spain may now be aſcertained, if we may depend on the recent returns to government. By theſe it appears, that the whole amounted, in the year 1787, to ten millions two hundred and ſixty-eight thouſand one hundred and fifty ſouls.

In this number are included,

Males, unmarried - -	2,926,229
Females, ditto - -	2,753,224
Married men - - -	1,947,165
Married women - -	1,943,496
Widowers - - -	235,778
Widows - - -	462,258
Total population	10,268,150

Among theſe we may diſtinguiſh,

Parochial clergy, called curas, -	16,689
Aſſiſtants, called tenientes curas,	5,771
Sacriſtans, or ſextons, - -	10,873

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Acolitos, to aſſiſt at the altar, -	5,503
Ordinados de patrimonio, having a patrimony of three reals a day,	13,244
Ordinados de menores, with inferior eccleſiaſtical orders, -	10,774
Beneficiados, or canons of cathedrals, or other beneficiaries, -	23,692
Monks - - - -	61,617
Nuns - - - -	32,500
Beatas - - - -	1,130
Syndics, to collect for the mendicants, - - - -	4,127
Inquiſitors, - - -	2,705
	188,625

Men ſervants, -	*Criados*, -	280,092
Day labourers, -	*Jornaleros*, -	964,571
Peaſants, - -	*Labradores*, -	907,197
Artiſans - - - -		270,989
Manufacturers - - -		39,750
Merchants, - - -		34,339
Knights, - -	*Hidalgos*, -	480,589

Of theſe four hundred one thouſand and forty are in the provinces of the Aſturias, Biſcay, Burgos, Galicia, and Leon.

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The cities, &c. according to the laſt returns.

Cities, - -	*Ciudades* -	145
Borough towns,	*Villas* -	4,572
Villages, - -	*Lugares* -	12,732
Hamlets, - -	*Aldeas* -	1,058
Granjas, Farm-houſes, - -		815
Cotos redondos, Parks, or waſte incloſed - - - -		611
Depopulated towns - -		1,511
Pariſhes - - - -		18,972
Convents - - - -		8,932

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The proportion between the males and females, in ſeveral provinces, perſonally preſent at the time of taking the ſurvey, will appear by the following Table:

	Unmarried		Married		Widowed	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Andaluſia - - -	219,770	191,141	132,589	131,445	20,666	42,542
Arragon - - -	178,762	151,009	121,711	121,095	15,262	26,229
Aſturias - - -	94,503	101,799	63,886	64,166	7,410	14,069
Caſtille, Old - -	20,638	19,424	14,806	14,816	1,442	2,764
Catalonia - - -	222,369	225,392	146,630	151,195	18,671	37,345
Galicia - - -	364,313	394,633	243,568	243,568	33,321	60,789
Granada - - -	187,305	176,907	120,484	121,389	14,243	32,662
Madrid - - -	42,057	33,275	30,215	28,313	3,505	10,178
Minorca - - -	7,763	7,213	5,441	5,441	384	1,486

Such

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Such are the laſt returns to government; and, as in the year 1770, the population, by the ſame authority, was ſtated to be nine millions three hundred and ſeven thouſand eight hundred and three, we might haſtily conclude that Spain, in the courſe of ſeventeen years, had increaſed nearly one million of inhabitants. In like manner, obſerving, A. D. 1723, the number of ſouls to be ſeven millions ſix hundred and twenty-five thouſand, we might infer, that ſince that period ſhe was advanced in population more than two millions and an half. But the fact is, that the returns to government are not always juſt; and Uſtariz aſſures us, that the people, to leſſen their contributions of men and money, conceal their numbers, and make falſe returns. He detected many which were a fifth, and ſome one half, below the truth.

Now, if from the number above ſtated as the population of A. D. 1787, we deduct three hundred and fifty-eight thouſand two hundred and ſixty-four, theſe being out of the peninſula, and inhabiting either the iſlands or the coaſt of Africa, we ſhall have for the remainder nine millions nine hundred

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hundred and nine thouſand eight hundred and eighty-ſix; and if we allow the area of Spain to be one hundred and forty-eight thouſand four hundred and forty-eight ſquare miles, we ſhall find ſixty-ſeven perſons nearly to a mile. This, if compared with the Ruſſian empire, is reſpectable; but if with France, is below mediocrity. In the former they reckon five to a ſquare mile; in the latter, one hundred and fifty-ſeven. England comes in between France and Spain; but Spain, if properly cultivated and well governed, might be the firſt in Europe, not excepting Holland, which to its wiſe and equitable laws is indebted for a population amounting to two hundred and ſeventy-two on a mile ſquare. (*Vide* Necker and Zimmermann.) Bernardo Ward, who was in the employment of the Spaniſh government, allows that eighteen thouſand ſquare leagues of the richeſt land are left uncultivated, and that two millions of the people are unemployed. (*V.* Proyecto Econ. A. D. 1750.)

All are agreed that Spain, in more diſtant periods, was much better peopled than at preſent; and many have attempted to aſſign

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aſſign the cauſe of its depopulation; but as they commonly fix on one, and ſeldom think of more than two or three among thoſe cauſes that are moſt obvious, it may be uſeful to trace the various circumſtances, which have contributed to depreſs this once powerful nation, and to deſolate, at leaſt comparatively, one of the richeſt countries in Europe.

1ſt, In the year 1347, the *plague* broke out with more than common virulence at Almeria, and, during three years continuance, ravaged Spain to ſuch an extent, that many cities were left almoſt without inhabitants; and throughout the whole peninſula the population was reduced to one-third of what it had been previous to that event. Of this plague Alfonſo XI. died, whilſt conducting the ſiege againſt Gibraltar. (Campomanes Induſtria popular, p. 168. Ponz Viage, tom 8, cap. 5. ſect. 60.) Subſequent to this, the country has frequently been laid waſte by peſtilential fevers, introduced from Africa, or dating their origin from ſome preceding famine. A. D. 1649, more than two hundred thouſand periſhed in the ſouthern provinces; and

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and ſcarcely ever is that part of the country free from putrid, intermittent, and contagious fevers. Such a vaſt extent of territory as this peninſula contains, without communication either by canals or roads, divided into a multitude of independent kingdoms, or, at a ſubſequent period, into provinces, each exacting heavy duties on the introduction of grain, muſt often have felt diſtreſs for want of bread. In fact, one province has been reduced to the extremity of famine, whilſt others have been ruined by abundance. In Seville, A. D. 1652, wheat ſold for 15*s.* 3*d.* the buſhel; and A. D. 1657, ſo low as 1*s.* 4*d.* It was not till the year 1752, that by a wiſe regulation of the marquis de la Enſenada, corn was permitted to paſs freely, even in Spaniſh veſſels, from one province to another. (Camp. Educ. pop. Ap. part ii. p. 16.) The conſequence of famine, as it is well known, is peſtilence.

The common diet of the country prediſpoſes the inhabitants to receive infection; and the practice of phyſicians, in preſcribing veneſection indiſcriminately to all their patients, tends only to increaſe the evil.

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From all theſe concurring circumſtances, few countries have ſuſtained ſuch loſſes by epidemical diſeaſes, few have been ſo often ravaged by peſtilential fevers.

2d, For more than ſeven centuries, from the year 714 to 1492, Spain was haraſſed by almoſt inceſſant ſtruggles between warlike nations, in the heart of that divided country, contending for dominion; till the marriage of Ferdinand with Iſabella had united the two crowns of Caſtille and Arragon, and the conqueſt of Granada put a period to the empire of the Moors.

3d, A. D. 1493, Columbus opened a new channel for their ambition, and gave beginning to endleſs *emigrations*, by the diſcovery of America.

Previous to this, the nobility were moſtly reſident on their eſtates, and when not engaged in war, gave themſelves up to the management of their own concerns. Without accumulating treaſures, many were able to conduct five or ſix thouſand ſoldiers to the field; but when they had ſeen the gold and ſilver of Peru and Mexico, they became reſtleſs and impatient to obtain employments in thoſe countries, and neglected the

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the ſlower, yet more certain, means of obtaining wealth, by the improvement of their lands. The people in like manner haſtened to America in ſuch numbers, that the maritime provinces ſuffered ſeverely by the loſs.

Emigrations, if regular and in due proportion, neither weaken the parent ſtate, nor ſenſibly diminiſh the remaining ſtock; but when they are ſudden, and carried beyond certain bounds, they tend to weakneſs and to deſolation. The former may be obſerved in the highlands of Scotland, in Switzerland, and in many parts of Germany; the latter was viſible on the firſt diſcovery of America, and has ever ſince been felt. (*Vide Oſorio diſcurſo univerſal*; addreſſed to Charles II. A. D. 1686.)

4th, From the acceſſion of Charles I. of Spain, but the Vth of Germany, (A. D. 1506) the nation was engaged in *war*, with ſhort intervals, for more than two centuries, thereby exhauſting the treaſures of America, and waſting the blood of its moſt adventurous ſubjects, in Italy, in Germany, in Flanders, in Portugal, in France, only to gratify the vanity of its ſovereigns, and to extend

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the bounds of their unjuſt dominion. The immediate ſucceſſors of Charles having Spain, Naples, Sicily, Sardinia, Milan, Franch Compté, and ſeventeen provinces in the low countries, beſide Portugal, of which they acquired the ſovereignty, A. D. 1580, and boundleſs territories in north and ſouth America; this diſperſed and moſt unwieldy empire, weak in proportion to its vaſt extent, conſumed perpetually both men and money, without a poſſibility of ſolidly uniting ſuch diſtant and diſcordant provinces under one command.

At war ſucceſſively with all the powers of Europe, Spain enriched her enemies, and became poor herſelf; becauſe, wherever ſhe diſplayed her banners, ſhe diſperſed her treaſures, and after the moſt ſplendid victories never failed to find herſelf exhauſted of her ſtrength. At the end of the firſt century ſubſequent to the acquiſition of America, ſhe was reduced to the ſad neceſſity of debaſing her coin, and ſo low in credit, that ſhe gave more than thirty per cent. for money. This we have on the authority of the univerſity of Toledo, as quoted by

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by count Campomanes in his *Educacion popular*.

5th, The cauſe commonly aſſigned for the depopulation of the country, as if it were the only cauſe, is the *expulſion of the Moors*. (A. D. 1613.) To this may be added the previous expulſion of the Jews, to the number of eight hundred thouſand, by Ferdinand and Iſabella, who baniſhed theſe infidels in token of gratitude to heaven for the conqueſt of Granada. This wound was grievous; but, before the nation had recovered ſtrength, to baniſh nine hundred thouſand of its moſt induſtrious ſubjects, was ſuch a ſtroke, that to the preſent day it is ſeverely felt. Under the beſt government, with the moſt propitious circumſtances, it would require ages to retrieve ſo great a loſs.

6th, Conſequent to the expulſion of the Moors, their repeated and almoſt inceſſant *depredations* along the whole extent of coaſt, waſhed by the waters of the Mediterranean Sea, rendered the moſt fertile parts of Spain unſafe, and the produce exceedingly precarious. For the laſt century, the number of Spaniſh captives at Algiers, has uſually been about

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about thirty thouſand, and their ranſom has been reckoned, one with another, at a thouſand dollars, or one hundred and fifty pounds, amounting in the whole to four millions and an half ſterling. With ſuch a premium for the ranſom of their captives, theſe pirates found ample ſupplies for the equipment of their gallies. (*V.* Camp. Ap. i. 373.) Government has recently ſettled a treaty with the Algerines; and in that, according to the opinion of count Campomanes, the miniſters have ſhewn more diſcretion, than when they attempted to deſtroy that neſt of pirates. His judgment is founded on this maxim, *divide et impera:* ſupport the Algerines, that you may weaken the empire of Morocco.

7th, Among the deſolating cauſes, muſt be reckoned their *change of government*, not on account of the blood of their beſt citizens, ſhed in the doubtful conflict, for that loſs in time might be retrieved, but from the unremitted operation of a bad government. It muſt be confeſſed, that under deſpotiſm may accidentally be found wiſdom and equity, with wealth and power; but, ſince the loſs of liberty, theſe have not

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been ſeen in Spain. In national aſſemblies, able leaders may ariſe to repreſent their grievances, and to ſeek redreſs. Had Spain enjoyed her cortes after light was diffuſed in Europe, when citizens began to aſcertain their rights, and to ſhake off the chains of feodal tyranny, ſhe would not ſo long have groaned under oppreſſion.

Although ſome grievances, ſince the repreſentation of count Campomanes, have been redreſſed, yet, by their long continuance, they tended to deſolate the country, and therefore well deſerve to be recorded. I ſhall ſelect the moſt remarkable, and ſupport them by quotations from his ineſtimable works. Theſe relate to the revenue, the army, and the police.

No country ever invented a more ruinous ſyſtem of finance, or one leſs friendly to manufactures and to commerce. The *alcavala*, with its *cientos*, being a tax of fourteen per cent. on all commodities, both on the raw materials, and on the ſame when manufactured, as often as the property changes hands, rated, not according to the prime coſt, but to the ſelling price, and therefore conſtantly increaſing, is almoſt

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moſt ſufficient of itſelf to create a general ſtagnation. This effect is evident in Caſtille; whilſt in Catalonia and in the provinces of Arragon, where Philip V. exchanged this oppreſſive tax for the *equivalent*, induſtry prevails, and manufactures flouriſh. The *millones*, being a tax upon proviſions, tends to increaſe the price of labor, and thereby indirectly proves an obſtacle to foreign commerce.

With ſuch powerful inducements to defraud the revenue, to what innumerable vexations, in order to prevent this, muſt the manufacturers and merchants have been ſubjected by government, more eſpecially when the revenue was let to farmers, who, with their ſervants, were an hundred thouſand. Theſe watchful harpies were authorized to place their ſpies at the door of every ſhop, to examine the tradeſman's books, to put their ſeal on his commodities, to demand the teſtimony of thoſe, who were ſent to purchaſe, with the atteſtation of the purchaſer himſelf, and to require certificates from thoſe, on whom the commodity was found. (*Vide* Camp. E. P. Ap. iv. p. 244.) The farmers of the

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taxes were originally Jews; but the wealth to be acquired by plunder made the employment honourable. Their miſconduct called loudly for redreſs, and this grievance is no longer found in Spain. But what ſhall we ſay, ſhould a more enlightened nation, boaſting of freedom, ſubmit to ſimilar oppreſſions?

That the vexations ſpecified tended to depopulate the country muſt be evident; that they produced this effect, Oſorio, as quoted by count Campomanes, aſſures us in his diſcourſe on the grievances under which the nation laboured. He aſſerts, that in the villages, not one-third of the houſes had eſcaped the rapacity of thoſe who farmed the taxes; becauſe, when nothing elſe remained to the miſerable peaſants, theſe mercileſs exactors ſeized their houſes, and ſold the materials to the firſt, who was inclined to purchaſe. This cauſe of depopulation was not removed till the year 1749. (*Vide* Camp. E. P. Ap. i. p. 347.)

Among a great variety of cauſes producing this effect, and itſelf the genuine offspring of bad government, is the *want of a free market*. Under the idea of preventing

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ing impoſition, the magiſtrate authorized to intervene between the buyer and the ſeller fixed the price of all commodities, even of corn and manufactures, to the ſole advantage of alguaziles, regidors, and eſcrivanos, but to the deſtruction of agriculture, and to the diſcouragement of induſtry. This evil was introduced by Philip II. when the gold and ſilver of America had leſſened the value of money in the mother country; or as the people in general complained, when every commodity was grown extravagantly dear. It was, however, confined to the kingdom of Caſtille; and, conſequently the provinces of Catalonia, Arragon, and Valencia, being free, were both more populous and better cultivated than it, although their ſoil, excepting Valencia, is far from rich. (*Vide* Camp. E. P. Ap. i. p. 240—254. 365. 418.) As to manufactures, it was in the reign of Alonzo el Sebio, A. D. 1256, that the magiſtrates firſt interfered to fix the price, and this they did without regarding the goodneſs of the materials or the value of the work. The conſequence of ſuch a regulation is obvious. (*Vide* Camp. E. P. Ap. iv. p. 64.)

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With the intention of rendering provisions cheap, government, till the year 1765, *prohibited the exportation of grain.* For the honour of Spain we may obſerve, that nine years ſubſequent to this, M. Turgot prevailed on Lewis XVI. to give ſimilar liberty to France, and with the ſame good effect. The progreſs of agriculture, the vaſt increaſe in the quantity of grain, and the diminution in its price, in conſequence of this wiſe regulation, and of the freedom granted to the farmer for the ſale of his commodity, are ſufficient to evince how much population muſt have been retarded by the previous reſtraint.

The ignorance and jealouſy of government were not confined to corn, for with the ſame contracted views, and influenced by the ſame ſhort ſighted policy, the kings of Spain effectually diſcouraged, and continue to diſcourage, *the breed of horſes,* which, if not reſtrained, would prove a never failing ſource of wealth. The very means adopted to increaſe the breed have had the oppoſite effect. To confine the market, and thereby to ſink the price; to oblige all the farmers to regiſter their horſes, with

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with the age, the colour, and the ſize; to exact from them a ſtrict account, and to ſubject them to heavy fines; to haraſs them with unſeaſonable viſitors, and to leave them at the mercy of low men in office; ſurely this can never be the way to promote their induſtry, and to encourage them in producing the commodity ſo much to be deſired. The intention of the king is to mount his cavalry at a ſmall expence; but ſhould the breeder continue ſubject to ſuch vexations, the race will fail, and mules will ſupply their place. Let the ports be open; extend the market; give freedom to commerce; and leave the farmers unmoleſted to purſue their various operations; let their induſtry have free ſcope to move in; let them be protected in their perſons and their property; then, let the magiſtrate retire.

From the ſame miſtaken policy, *dealers*, or jobbers, in corn and cattle, have been diſcouraged, under an idea that they raiſed the price. This error, however, has not been confined to Spain; for in the Engliſh ſtatutes are to be found proviſions againſt regrators, yet, without middle men, the attention of the farmer would be diſtracted, and for want of a ready ſale for his commodities,

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he would have neither time nor capital to conduct his buſineſs to advantage. Theſe middle men create diſpatch, and eventually increaſe productions. But from a ſtrange inconſiſtency of principle, whilſt middle men, as dealers in corn and cattle, were diſcouraged, manufacturers were forbid to ſell by retail, leſt they ſhould injure the commerce of the gremios. (*Vide* Camp. E. P.)

Previous to the year 1750, the *fiſheries* were much diſcouraged by the rapacity of the corregidors, alcaldes, regidors, and other magiſtrates, who plundered the fiſhermen of their beſt fiſh, as a recompenſe for their trouble in making the aſſize, and then ruined them by fixing the price too low. Theſe grievances I ſhall ſtate in treating of the fiſhery at Carthagena.

Since the acceſſion of the preſent family, ſound policy has led them to eſtabliſh barracks; but, previous to the commencement of this century, the military were lodged in the houſes of the peaſants. In the year 1686, Oſorio repreſented that quartering the ſoldiers had deſtroyed moſt of the villages in Spain. This may be readily conceived, when we are informed that the military ſtipend was far from being regularly paid.

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The ſtate of the *police* I ſhall give when deſcribing Cadiz and Malaga. Here it may be ſufficient to obſerve, that as the regidors have purchaſed their office, they muſt naturally ſeek to indemnify themſelves; and although deputies and ſyndics, with equal authority, are now elected by the people, it is only ſince the year 1766, that this palliative expedient has been provided.

The people, thus every where plundered and oppreſſed, could not increaſe and multiply, as they would have done under a free and equitable government.

8th, *Convents* are by no means favourable to population. Theſe in Spain are eight thouſand nine hundred and thirty-two, containing more than ninety-four thouſand monks and nuns; but the perſons bound to celibacy by vows are not much below two hundred thouſand. Yet this ſuperabundance of the drones may be conſidered not merely as the cauſe, but as the effect of their declenſion, being much increaſed by the ſtagnation of their trade. The univerſity of Toledo, in a memorial delivered to Philip III. at the beginning of the ſeventeenth

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teenth century, complains, that not one-tenth of the uſual number of marriages took place; and particularly ſtates, that whereas, whilſt commerce flouriſhed, it had been ſaid, *Quien ha oficio, ha beneficio, He who has a trade, has the beſt benefice*; now all parents, dreading the poverty and wretchedneſs attached to trade, were inclined to breed up their children nuns, monks, and pariſh prieſts, or even expoſed them to periſh in their infancy. Some of the beſt Spaniſh writers on political economy have declared againſt multiplying convents, and the cortes, with the conſent of Philip IV. determined, about the middle of the laſt century, that no more convents ſhould be built; but as general opinion is more powerful than law, this reſolution of the cortes remained without effect. Once eſtabliſhed, they are not eaſily ſuppreſſed, becauſe of innumerable maſſes, which muſt be daily ſaid by compact for the ſouls in purgatory.

9th, Numerous *feſtivals* tend to depopulate a country. Benedict XIV. leſſened the number in his temporal eſtates, and recommended a ſimilar reduction to his clergy.

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In conſequence of this, in the dioceſe of Toledo, they have now no more than ninety-three general feſtivals, not including the ſpecial feſtivals of each pariſh, and of the religious houſes, which, in every city ſwell the number of unproductive days. If to theſe we add the occaſional bull feaſts, and the Mondays, claimed both by apprentices and journeymen for their own diverſion, we ſhall have reduced conſiderably the number of working days; but even then we muſt be obliged to make a freſh reduction from their time, becauſe the working hours are ſeldom more than ſix; inſomuch that all the unprofitable hours being carried to account, not more than one-third, or perhaps one-fourth, remains for labour. How then is it poſſible to ſtand a competition in manufactures with more induſtrious nations? (*V.* Camp. E. P. p. 274.)

10th, *Prevalence of paſture* tends to depopulate a country. Grazing and tillage ſhould ever be united. The ſame quantity of land, which, in wild paſture, would require the labour of one family, if tilled, would give employment to twenty, or even twice that number. In Spain, ever ſince the

the year 1350, at which period the plague had carried off two-thirds of the inhabitants, the laws of the Meſta have ſet at variance the ploughman and the ſhepherd, preventing each from deriving the leaſt advantage from the other, inſomuch that five millions of ſheep, under the ſanction of a peculiar code, not only fail to enrich the lands on which they feed, but effectually prevent its cultivation. Independent of the Merino flock, many of the great landlords have ſuffered villages to go to ruin, and have let their eſtates to graziers.

11th, The want of an *Agrarian Law*. Previous to the recovery of the ſouthern provinces from the dominion of the Moors, the diſtracted and divided ſtate of the peninſula made it neceſſary for the peaſants to ſeek refuge in the cities, or at leaſt to aſſociate in villages for their mutual defence. For this reaſon, independent farms, detached and diſtant from a town, are ſeldom, if ever, ſeen in the ſouthern provinces of Spain. The cities, towns, and villages, were built on the moſt fertile ſpots, and between many of them intervened vaſt tracts of land, little ſuſceptible of cultivation. When the plague of

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of the year 1347 had ſpread deſolation through the country, many towns and villages were ſuffered to go to ruin and decay, whereby the diſtance between thoſe that ſurvived was conſiderably increaſed. To this event has been attributed the extenſive territories of innumerable towns, many of which are from ten to fifteen miles diameter, and therefore too far diſtant from the habitation of the farmer to admit of cultivation. Adjoining to the village you obſerve vines, olives, figs, and grain; all beyond is deſolate and waſte.

Previous to the conqueſt, when the chriſtian princes were inclined to make war upon the infidels, they invited the great nobility of other countries, and their own feodal lords, to join them. Many of theſe could bring into the field five or ſix thouſand vaſſals, and were bound to maintain them, at leaſt to the frontiers, at their own expence. But then, as moſt of theſe were little leſs than independent ſovereigns, the prince was obliged to court them; and, if he would allure them to his ſtandard, it was by the hope of making conqueſts for themſelves that he prevailed on them to follow

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follow him. Hence they acquired by arms, cities, towns, and villages, with extenſive diſtricts.

In ſucceeding periods, the great nobility, taking advantage of their ſovereign during his minority, when either contending for the regency themſelves, or embarraſſing the regent, they extorted conſiderable grants from the king's demeſne, conſiſting of cities, towns, and villages, with the adjacent territories; all which they tranſmitted to their poſterity.

By intermarriages, many of theſe vaſt poſſeſſions have been united; inſomuch that three great lords, the dukes of Oſuna, Alba, and Medina Cœli, cover almoſt the whole province of Andaluſia; and the laſt of theſe, claims by inheritance, the greateſt part of Catalonia.

Such vaſt poſſeſſions paſſing by entail, are far from being friendly to population, more eſpecially as the proprietor never reſides on his eſtates, and, being often embarraſſed in his circumſtances, has little inclination, and leſs ability, to make improvements for his heir.

12th, To this want of yeomanry, muſt be

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added, the *defect of ſubſtantial tenants.* I have already remarked, when ſpeaking of the court, that moſt of the great eſtates are in adminiſtration, that is, cultivated by ſtewards on the lords account, and therefore not productive. If tenanted, the rent commonly is paid in kind; and this, when, from bad crops, corn is dear, ruins the farmer. In ſuch circumſtances, it is difficult to raiſe a tenantry with ſufficient capitals to ſtock a farm. In tillage, it is found, that, to occupy an eſtate to advantage requires a capital more than equal to five times the rent. But in Spain, few ſuch are to be found. Should they, however, perfect what the wiſeſt among them, with count Campomanes for their guide, have been long attempting, an agrarian law; ſhould they, as propoſed, allow every man to cultivate what quantity he pleaſes of waſte land, without a ſpecial grant from the proprietor, and to enjoy it as a copyhold, charged with a quit-rent equal to the value, previous to this improvement; in proceſs of time they will raiſe up both a yeomanry and tenantry, and, in conſequence, a more numerous population.

13th,

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13th, *Royal Manufactures and Monopolies* have a baneful influence on population; for, as no private adventurers can ſtand the competition with their ſovereign, where he is the great monopoliſt, trade will never proſper. The Spaniſh monarch is a manufacturer of

Broad cloth, at Guadalajara and Brihuega;
China, at the palace of the Buen Retiro;
Cards, at Madrid and Malaga;
Glaſs, at S. Ildefonſo;
Paper, in Segovia;
Pottery, at Talavera;
Salt Petre, Madrid, and various other places;
Stockings, at Valdemoro;
Swords, at Toledo;
Tapeſtry, at Madrid;
Tiſſue, at Talavara.

He has the monopoly of brandy, cards, gun-powder, lead, quickſilver, ſealing wax, ſalts, ſulphur, and tobacco.

14th, To this may be added, as a cauſe of depopulation, the *national prejudice* againſt trade. Whilſt the Jews were merchants, and the mechanic arts were left, either to the Moors, or to the vileſt of the people, the grandees or knights were ambitious

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only of military fame. After the conqueſt of Granada, the Moors continued to be the principal manufacturers, and excelled in the cultivation of their lands. When theſe, with the Jews, were baniſhed, a void was left, which the high-ſpirited Spaniard was not inclined to fill. Trained for many centuries to the exerciſe of arms, and regarding ſuch mean occupations with diſdain, his averſion was increaſed by his hatred and contempt for thoſe, whom he had been accuſtomed to ſee engaged in theſe employments. He had been early taught to conſider trade as diſhonourable; and whether he frequented the theatre, or liſtened to the diſcourſes of the pulpit orators, he could not fail to be confirmed in his ideas. Even in the preſent day, many, who boaſt their deſcent from noble anceſtors, had rather ſtarve than work, more eſpecially at thoſe trades by which, according to the laws, they would be degraded, and forfeit their nobility.

We muſt not imagine that the Spaniards are naturally indolent; they are remarkable for activity, capable of ſtrenuous exertions, and patient of fatigue: if, therefore,

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unemployed, this muſt be attributed to other cauſes, of which, reſpecting ſome occupations, national prejudice is one.

15th, Among the deſolating cauſes, I muſt be allowed to mention one, on the teſtimony of a native Spaniard, becauſe I never had occaſion to obſerve the leaſt trace of it myſelf. It is acknowledged by count Campomanes, that *the national prejudice was againſt the ſettlement of foreigners in Spain.* A. D. 1623, ſtrangers were allowed to be naturalized, and either to take farms or to practiſe their mechanic arts, provided they ſettled at the diſtance of twenty leagues from the ſea coaſt; but as few, if any ſtrangers availed themſelves of this indulgence, his preſent majeſty, in the year 1772, extended this privilege to merchants, permitting them to be eſtabliſhed in any of the ports. Certain it is, that, for want of intercourſe with other nations, the native Spaniards, being chiefly reſident at home, excepting thoſe who migrate to America, and few ſtrangers even paſſing through the country; all the arts, ſciences, and manufactures have been at a ſtand, and appear to be at leaſt a century behind the reſt of Europe.

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Europe. In the year 1655, don Franciſco Martinez de Mata, an author of high reputation, in his ſeventh diſcourſe on the depopulation of Spain, complained, that a hundred and twenty thouſand ſtrangers, working cheaper, and apparently better, than the natives, were allowed to ſpread over the country; entering it poor, but by their diligence acquiring wealth, and returning home loaded with gold. He aſſerts, that they carried out with them annually more than eight hundred thouſand pounds, or ſeven million three hundred and twenty thouſand ducats; but he forgets to mention, that theſe men only filled up the vacancy recently made by the expulſion of the Moors, and followed the occupations to which the high bred Spaniard would not ſubmit. He recommends giving alms to ſtrangers, but not employment; and, to confirm his advice, relates the hiſtory of a Spaniſh farrier, as an example to be followed. This man went to Paris, with a view to work at his trade, but being threatened with death, ſhould he there venture to exerciſe his art, he retired to Bourdeaux, where he hoped to find a more hoſpitable

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reception; but there they cut off one arm, that he might no longer work, and rob the native farrier of bread. (Camp. E. P. A. 4. p. 184.)

16th, *Perſecution* is a powerful cauſe of depopulation; and, like the national prejudice againſt ſtrangers, prevents many uſeful ſubjects from being added to the ſtate. It were endleſs to enumerate the advantages a community derives from toleration. As without an eſtabliſhed religion the poor would be neglected, and, in the villages at leaſt, would be in danger of loſing all knowledge of a deity; ſo, without a toleration, there could be no competition, and therefore little ſcope for emulation, without which zeal would be apt to languiſh, morals to decay; and thus in proceſs of time, the moſt important truths would, by the many, be totally forgotten.

The good biſhop of Oviedo, lamenting over the manners of the age, comforted himſelf at laſt under a perſuaſion, that, through the activity and zeal of the inquiſitors, they had no infidels in Spain. For my part, I am perſuaded, that the torpid infidelity of ignorance prevails more in Spain,

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Spain, than the active infidelity of ſcience in either England or France.

All the enlightened nations of Europe have at laſt diſcovered the folly of perſecution, and ſeem to be perſuaded, that the reſort of ſtrangers, with their wealth, their knowledge, their induſtry, and arts, will bear proportion to the extent of toleration. It is now generally felt, that theſe contribute to enrich, and, by the increaſe of people, to make moſt powerful the country, in which the citizens, without diſtinction, enjoy moſt civil and religious liberty.

17th, The *gold and ſilver of America*, inſtead of animating the country and promoting induſtry, inſtead of giving life and vigour to the whole community, by the increaſe of arts, of manufactures, and of commerce, had an oppoſite effect, and produced in the event, weakneſs, poverty, and depopulation. The wealth which proceeds from induſtry reſembles the copious yet tranquil ſtream, which, paſſing ſilent and almoſt inviſible, enriches the whole extent of country through which it flows: but the treaſures of the new world, like a ſwelling torrent, were ſeen, were heard,

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were felt, and were admired; yet their firſt operation was to deſolate and lay waſte the ſpot on which they fell. The ſhock was ſudden; the contraſt was too great. Spain overflowed with ſpecie, whilſt other nations were comparatively poor in the extreme. The price of labour, of proviſions, and of manufactures bore proportion to the quantity of circulating caſh. The conſequence is obvious: in the poorer countries induſtry advanced, in the more wealthy it declined; in the more wealthy all the manufactures went to ruin and decay, every thing was imported from abroad, and, till the beginning of the preſent century, Spain purchaſed all her men of war, with maſts and cordage, from Holland, rigging from France, ammunition from England, and even her gallies from the Genoeſe. V. Martinez de Mata, Diſcurſo 8.

Combined with all the forementioned cauſes of depopulation, this became more fatal to the proſperity of Spain than it would have been, had circumſtances been more propitious. Had the country been populous and well governed, had peace been cultivated, and had the manufactures flouriſhed,

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flouriſhed, had the convents been recently deſtroyed, and the feſtivals aboliſhed, had emigration ceaſed, and had ſtrangers reſorted to ſettle in the country with their induſtry and arts; this wealth would have given new vigour to the nation. But, inſtead of this benign effect, numerous convents were endowed, the drones were multiplied, and this ſudden repletion produced a torpor, ending in a political diſeaſe, ſimilar to that which, in like circumſtances, affects the human frame. Even in the preſent day, ſpecie being about ſix per cent. leſs valuable in Spain than it is in other nations, operates preciſely in the ſame proportion againſt her manufactures and her population.

18th, Among the cauſes of depopulation count Campomanes reckons *corporations* with excluſive privileges, checking the induſtrious, and reſtraining them from the exerciſe of thoſe mechanic arts for which they are qualified, and to which they feel themſelves inclined, and eſtabliſhing monopolies, to the prejudice of the community.

In Spain theſe are certainly injurious to a degree ſcarcely to be conceived by thoſe

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who have not been witneſſes to ſimilar abuſes. In all the trading companies or *gremios*, religious fraternities are formed, ſome incorporated by royal authority and letters patent, others by connivance of the crown, but both in violation of the laws.

Every fraternity is governed by a mayor and court of aldermen, who make laws, ſit in judgment on offenders, and claim in many caſes exemption from the common tribunals of the country. None but the members of theſe communities may exerciſe mechanic arts, or be concerned in trade; and to be admitted as a member is both attended with a heavy fine, and entails upon each individual a conſtant annual expence.

This, however, is not the greateſt evil, for the mayor and officers, during their year of ſervice, not only neglect their own affairs, but from vanity and oſtentation run into expences, ſuch as either ruin their families, or at leaſt ſtraiten them exceedingly in trade.

Theſe corporations, being eſtabliſhed in the cities, baniſh, by their oppreſſive laws, all the mechanic arts from towns and vil-

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lages. In the cities likewiſe they tend only to monopoly, by limiting the numbers in every branch of buſineſs, and fixing within unreaſonable bounds the reſidence of thoſe who are concerned in trade. This they do either by aſſigning the diſtance between ſhop and ſhop, under pretence that two ſhops vending the ſame commodities muſt not be ſo near together as to interfere, or by aſſembling all the mechanics of the ſame profeſſion, ſuch as ſilverſmiths, and confining them to one ſtreet or quarter of the city, under the plauſible pretext that thus the proper magiſtrate may with eaſe pay attention to their work, and ſee that the due ſtandard be obſerved.

In many caſes the various *gremios* bear hard upon each other. Thus, for inſtance, the carpenter muſt not employ his induſtry on mahogany, or any other wood but deal, nor muſt he invade the province of the turner. The turner muſt confine his ingenuity and labour to ſoft wood, and muſt not preſume to touch either ivory or metals, even though he ſhould be reduced to poverty for want of work. The wheeler, in ſimilar diſtreſs, muſt not, however qualified, extend

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extend his operations beyond the appointed bounds, ſo as to encroach on the buſineſs of the coachmaker, who is equally reſtrained from either making or mending either cart or waggon wheels. The barber may ſhave, draw teeth, and bleed, but he muſt not fill up his leiſure time with making wigs. As mechanics are obliged to keep exactly each to his ſeveral line, ſo muſt ſhopkeepers confine themſelves to their proper articles in trade, and under no pretence muſt the manufacturer preſume to open magazines, that he may ſell by retail.

But neither are theſe abuſes the only evils which call for reformation. Many corporations have been impertinently meddling, and have abſurdly bound the hands of the manufacturer by regulations with reſpect to the conduct of his buſineſs, and the productions of his art, ſuch as being too rigidly obſerved would preclude all improvements, and would be deſtructive to his trade, by giving to foreigners a manifeſt advantage in favour of their merchandize.

The incorporated fraternities in the kingdoms of Caſtille and Arragon are 25,581,

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and their corporate expences amount to 11,687,861 reals. Their revenue is not altogether conſumed in feaſting, nor in ſalaries to officers, nor in penſions to their widows, nor yet in law ſuits, which are ſaid to be both numerous and expenſive; but conſiderable ſums are expended for religious purpoſes, in procuring maſſes to be ſaid, either for departed ſpirits, and the ſouls in purgatory, or for the benefit of the fraternity in which each individual has a proportionable intereſt. For this reaſon, theſe communities enjoy the protection of the eccleſiaſtical courts, to which, in caſes of neceſſity, they frequently appeal.

The chartered corporations claim their excluſive privileges by royal grant, and on this plea they reſiſt a reformation, not conſidering, as count Campomanes with propriety remarks, the eſſential condition of theſe grants, *Sin perjuicio de tercero*, or that nothing therein contained ſhall be to the *prejudice of others*, or injurious to the citizens at large.

19th, Similar to the former in operation, as checking manufactures, and thereby diminiſhing the population of a country, may be

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be reckoned *ſumptuary laws*. It is Baron Monteſquieu who applies this remark to Spain, and facts certainly vindicate his obſervation; for had their *dreſs* been left to the whim and the caprice of the inhabitants, the more delicate manufactures, now loſt, would, by the certainty of a ready market, have been retained among them.

20th, Had all Europe continued upon one level; the above ſtated cauſes of depopulation had not been ſo ſeverely felt in Spain. But, unhappily for her, theſe were rendered more deſtructive by the riſing induſtry, and conſequent proſperity, of rival nations, in which convents were left empty, numerous feſtivals aboliſhed, to which ſtrangers might reſort, where property had been long ſince more equally divided, and where new learnt commerce led to wealth and power. Theſe nations, in proportion as civil, religious, and commercial liberty advanced, grew into greatneſs; and, like the ſpreading oak caſting a ſhade on the more weakly ſaplings, did not ſuffer them to riſe.

Suppoſing all nations to be equally well governed, to enjoy the ſame degree of civil,

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civil, religious, and commercial liberty; the wealth and prosperity of one will extend to all. But should one nation continue free, in the full possession of public confidence and public credit, whilst another is governed by despotic sway, subject to the capricious will of a weak prince, or of a wicked minister, and therefore destitute of public confidence and public credit; the former will increase in wealth and power, the latter will decay, and freemen will give law to slaves.

With so many subsisting causes of depopulation in vain did Philip IV. A. D. 1623, by a special edict, offer a premium for marriage. In vain did he grant all the privileges of nobility to be enjoyed for four years to all new married men; in vain did he deprive the nobles of their privileges if unmarried at the age of twenty-five; and in vain did he offer all the exemptions of nobility for life to the fathers of six children: but should the people take advantage of the present crisis to banish the inquisitors, and to assert their freedom; should they, happy in possessing one of the richest countries upon earth, contract the bounds of their unwieldy

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unwieldy empire; ſhould they confine their views within the limits of their own peninſula, and cultivate the arts of peace; ſhould they, to cheriſh induſtry, aboliſh the monaſtic orders, leſſen the number of their feſtivals, eſtabliſh an agrarian law, and ſtrike off the fetters, by which their commerce has been bound; conſidering the ſoil, the climate, the abundance of water, the natural productions, the rivers, the harbours, and the local ſituation, we may venture to affirm, that no country, of the ſame extent, would be more populous, more wealthy, or more powerful, than Spain.

Let her for ever keep her true intereſt in view, and all Europe muſt rejoice in her proſperity.

Before I turn my back upon Madrid, I muſt briefly deſcribe the miniſters of ſtate, and ſome principal characters about the court, previouſly noticing the change in the conſtitution of their government.

It is well known that the government was feodal; that Spain enjoyed the protection of its cortes; and that the power of the monarch was circumſcribed by laws. At preſent, no ſovereign can be more deſpotic.

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ſpotic. The tranſition forms a moſt intereſting epoch in their hiſtory, but ſuch as would require more time in its developement, than a traveller can beſtow. Whenever I ſhall have an opportunity to reſume this ſubject, I ſhall endeavour to ſhew, that Spain, like all other countries which have loſt their liberty, was ruined by the inordinate ambition, and by the unjuſt pretenſions of the great. Whilſt labouring to curb the monarch, and to depreſs the people, they themſelves have ſunk, have loſt their power, and are become perfect cyphers, aſſembled round the ſovereign like priſoners, or at beſt, like ſervants, and not like pillars to ſupport his throne.

Should, however, this change in the conſtitution of their government ultimately lead them to a more perfect ſyſtem, it will have been productive of much good to the community; becauſe, during the feodal ages, the ſupreme authority was not regulated by conſiſtent and reaſonable principles. The country for many centuries was divided and ſubdivided into numerous kingdoms, ſome making profeſſion of chriſtianity, others devoted to the doctrines and precepts of the koran,

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koran. The ſubjects of the latter, that is of the Mahometan princes, long accuſtomed to deſpotic ſway, had neither inclination nor ability to aſſert their freedom; thoſe of the former, or rather their military chiefs, wholly unacquainted with the fundamental principles of government, could never be reconciled to a due ſubordination in obedience to equitable laws. Thoſe haughty nobles, the rude deſcendants of the Goths and Vandals, whilſt they oppreſſed their vaſſals, ſpurned at the idea of ſubjection, and not only, like independent princes, made war upon each other, but, whenever they conceived themſelves aggrieved, even by the ſovereign, they threatened him with violence.

As among the Gothic tribes any adventurous leader was under obligation to conſult his officers, who followed his ſtandard, not from neceſſity, but from inclination and opinion; ſo, when making conqueſts by their valour for himſelf and them, he arrived at empire, and they became his *barons*, he ſtill continued to aſk their advice on all emergencies, more eſpecially in whatever related to either peace or war. But when

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when he wanted a pecuniary aid, he applied, as was natural, to his commercial cities, inviting them to ſend their deputies, who might aſſemble with the barons, aſſiſted by the officers of his court, to deliberate on the expediency of ſuch meaſures, as ſhould be recommended to their conſideration. Thus we take notice of the *commons*, for the firſt time, in the cortes of Arragon, A. D. 1133, and of Catalonia, A. D. 1283, introduced for the purpoſe of voting the ſupplies. As for the *eccleſiaſtics*, it was not, at leaſt in Arragon, till the commencement of the fourteenth century, that they were ſummoned to attend the cortes.

Theſe were the three orders, which in *Caſtille* compoſed the great council of the kingdom. The firſt branch conſiſted of the grandees, the titular nobility, and thoſe among the cavaliers, who could claim this diſtinction in right of their progenitors. The archbiſhops and biſhops compoſed the ſecond claſs; and deputies from the commons occupied the third. The latter came as repreſentatives from the kingdoms of Burgos, Leon, Granada, Seville, Cordova, Murcia, Jaen, and Toledo; from the cities

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of Valladolid, Segovia, Salamanca, Avila, Toro, Zamora, Cuenca, Soria, and Guadalajara; from the village of Madrid; and in latter times from Galicia, under the denomination of a city.

When the cortes were aſſembled, the king, ſitting under the canopy of ſtate, aſſiſted by the ſupreme council of Caſtille, acquainted them with the reaſon of his calling them together, ſtating the various matters which were to be the ſubjects of diſcuſſion. One of the deputies from Burgos, as prolocutor, anſwered, that they were diſpoſed to ſerve his majeſty, and begged leave to aſſemble with the preſident of his council, that they might confer together on the propoſitions, which were ſubmitted to their judgment. The chambers then proceeded to conſider ſeparately what anſwer it would be proper to return, and after mature deliberation, when they had communicated to each other their reſpective reſolutions, they tranſmitted their final determination to the king. The commons at the ſame time made known their grievances, and ſought redreſs; in conſequence of which the king made ſuch proviſions as

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as prudence dictated and the exigency of the times required.

In *Arragon*, beſide the *ricos hombres*, or the nobles, the eccleſiaſtics and the commons, the cavaliers or hidalgos conſtituted a fourth order in the cortes. This aſſembly of the eſtates appears to have been more numerous than the cortes of Caſtille. Beſide the archbiſhop of Zaragoza, and the biſhops of the kingdom, many abbots and priors claimed a right to be conſulted; and to the chamber of the commons nine and twenty cities, communities, and towns ſent deputies. Theſe were the cities of Zaragoza, Hueſca, Tarazona, Jaca, Barbaſtro, Calataynd, Daroca, Teruel, Borja, Albarracin; the town of Alcañiz; the communities of Calataynd, Daroca, and Ternel; and the towns of Fraga, Montalvan, Monzon, Sariñena, S. Eſteban de Litera, Tamarite, Magallon, Bolea, Alquezar, Ainſa, Loharre, Moſqueruela, Murillo, Berbegal, Almudevar, Alagon, and Canfranc. But the deputies from Exea, Tauſte, Uncaſtillo, Sos, and Sadava took their ſeats with the hidalgos.

Theſe eſtates, convoked by the royal

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mandate, continued their ſeſſion only forty days, after which the aſſembly was of courſe diſſolved; but in the intermediate ſpace, the cortes were equally diſſolved if the ſovereign abſented himſelf without having prorogued them. When aſſembled, the archbiſhop of Zaragoza, as preſident, addreſſed the throne, aſſuring his majeſty of their fidelity, and that after mature deliberation they ſhould come to ſuch reſolutions, as would be moſt conducive to the ſervice of God, of the king, and of his kingdom. They made laws, granted ſupplies, and gave their ſanction to either war or peace.

In *Catalonia*, as in Caſtille, the cortes was compoſed of *three eſtates*, or, as the Spaniards call them, *arms*. The eccleſiaſtical arm conſiſted of the archbiſhop of Tarragona, preſident, eight biſhops, twenty-two mitred abbots, nine ſyndics from the cathedrals of the province, with the grand prior and caſtellain of Ampoſta. The military arm included the duke of Cardona, preſident, all the counts, viſcounts, barons, titular nobility, and cavaliers of the firſt quality. Syndics or repreſentatives from Barcelona,

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lona, Gerona, Lerida, Tortoſa, Cervera, Balaguer, and from twenty-four royal boroughs, conſtituted the *third eſtate*, or, as it is called, the royal arm. *Brazo real.*

In Navarre, the cortes bore reſemblance to the former.

It appears, by the 5th article in the requiſitions of the *Santa Junta*, that the reigning monarchs, ever watchful to extend the bounds of their prerogatives, and to advance their power, had, by places and penſions judiciouſly beſtowed, maintained a corrupt influence in the popular aſſembly; for, as we have already ſeen, when giving a deſcription of Toledo, the *Junta* inſiſted that the repreſentatives of the commons ſhould be paid by their conſtituents and receive neither place nor penſion from the crown.

Yet, notwithſtanding all that could be offered to the avarice or to the ambition of the members, the cortes, ever troubleſome in repreſenting grievances, and difficult to manage, occaſioned ſuch embarraſſment to the kings, and to their miniſters, that, not deſirous of liſtening to complaints, they were tardy in their application to this untractable aſſembly, and never but from ab-

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ſolute neceſſity iſſued a proclamation for calling them together.

Charles V. in whoſe perſon the two crowns of Caſtille and Arragon were firſt united, had been readily acknowledged by the cortes of both kingdoms, and the former had given him money, but the latter had refuſed a grant, till their grievances ſhould be redreſſed. The cortes of Catalonia had followed their example. This reſiſtance iſſued in a civil war, and among the leading propoſitions for reſtoring peace it was demanded, that the cortes ſhould aſſemble once in three years to conſult on public affairs. For this they fought; but their army being defeated, and at length diſperſed (A. D. 1522.) no attention was paid to their demand, and the cortes were never permitted to aſſemble, excepting when the treaſury was exhauſted, and wanted freſh ſupplies.

But although depreſſed, the ſpirit of the cortes continued unſubdued. They inſiſted, according to their ancient privilege, firſt to examine grievances, and then to grant ſupplies. Charles intreated them not to loſe their time in needleſs debates, when they ſhould

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be voting money, and ſolemnly proteſted, that he would not refuſe them any thing, which in reaſon they could aſk, provided they would firſt comply with his requeſt. In conſequence of this engagement on his part, they indiſcreetly voted four millions of ducats, a ſum nearly equal to half a million of our money, to be paid in three years; after which he ſpeedily diſmiſſed them.

That was the mortal blow to their authority, and from that time to their final diſſolution, A. D. 1647, the cortes may be regarded as an appendage only of the treaſury.

If in any future period light ſhould penetrate and be diffuſed in Spain, we may venture to predict, that the people will have neither patience nor inclination to conſult the muſty records of the cortes, in order to diſcover what are their rights, and what the degree of freedom they may juſtly claim. But, ſhould they take a retroſpective view, they will look beyond the feodal ages, and find their claims, not in royal grants and charters, but in the tacit agreement between the ruler and the ruled,

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when, for the good of the community, civil politics were formed.

The reigning monarch, Charles III. has never been conſidered as a man of more than common abilities; but all who know him, admire the goodneſs of his heart; and indeed it is impoſſible to look at him without reading diſtinctly the characters of benevolence and truth. As a man of principle, he eſteems it his firſt duty to promote the happineſs of the nation, over which he reigns; and if at any time his conduct hath been inconſiſtent with his principles; if he hath contracted unnatural alliances, without either the plea of neceſſity or proſpect of advantage; if, in defence of a relation, he hath haſtily engaged in war; it hath been always from goodneſs of heart, and from the influence of gratitude, that he hath erred. In chooſing his miniſters he conſults only the good of his people; and it muſt be confeſſed, that commonly he is well directed in his choice.

His preſent miniſter, count Florida Blanca, is a man of ſingular abilities, of upright intentions, and of indefatigable induſtry. His father was *Eſcrivano Epiſcopal*

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in Murcia. He himſelf, early in life, was taken into the houſe of Benevente, as advocate to the duke of Arcos, under whoſe patronage he became fiſcal, or one of the judges of Caſtille. In this employ he made himſelf conſpicuous, by ſeconding the views of count d'Aranda for the expulſion of the jeſuits, and by quieting the tumults which, upon that occaſion, the biſhop of Cuenca, a prelate exceedingly attached to thoſe intriguing fathers, had excited. After their expulſion, he was ſent as ambaſſador to Rome, where he acquired much reputation, by obtaining the ſanction of the pope to meaſures, which, in the event, have proved moſt fatal to the papal power. From Rome he was called by his ſovereign to direct his councils, whilſt the marquis of Grimaldi, who had been miniſter, was ordered to replace him at the holy ſee; and count d'Aranda, who, as preſident of the council and captain general of Caſtille, had been omnipotent, after having rendered the moſt important ſervices to his country, was ſent ambaſſador to Paris.

The new miniſter was not unmindful of his friends. Upon all occaſions he has ſhewn

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ſhewn a marked attention to the houſe of Benevente, and has proved, that he retains a grateful remembrance of the protection received at his firſt entrance into life.

Whilſt at Cuenca, he had lodged in the houſe of don Pedro de Lerena, one of thoſe favourites of fortune, who, without natural pretenſions, with little exertion, and leſs merit, are raiſed to the higheſt ſtations, and to the enjoyment of every comfort that wealth can purchaſe:

> Quales ex humili magna ad faſtigia rerum
> Extollit, quoties voluit fortuna jocari.
>
> JUVENAL.

Don Pedro de Lerena, ſon to a miſerable publican at Valdemoro, was bound apprentice to a blackſmith, who lived oppoſite to his father's houſe. In a lucky hour he married a rich widow of Cuenca, and, by the intereſt of her family, became ſome little official in that city. Here he had the good fortune to receive under his roof Moñino, now count Florida Blanca, and to ſecure a place in his good opinion. When the count took the reins of government, he was not unmindful of his friend, but embraced the earlieſt opportunity of ſerving

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ing him. Under ſuch a powerful patron, Lerena became agent to the army in Minorca, and, after the capture of that iſland, went with the duke of Crillon to Gibraltar in the ſame capacity, and at the termination of the war, he became intendant of Andaluſia, and aſſiſtant of Seville. Whilſt he continued in that employment, he procured, after the cuſtom of his country, certificates of his good conduct from all kinds of bodies, civil, military, and eccleſiaſtical, and from individuals of eminence, all which, being ſubmitted to the inſpection of the king, procured him, on the death of don Miguel de Muſquiz, the appointment to the high and important offices of the finance and war.

The family of the *Galvez*, equally fortunate, were all men of ſuperior talents. Don Joſeph de Galvez, marquis of Sonora, and miniſter of the Indies, was of a mean family, near Malaga, in the ſouth of Spain, but, by his great abilities, he raiſed himſelf and his relations to the higheſt honours of the ſtate. His two brothers drove boricos, and were called *Tio*, an appellation anſwering to uncle, or to gaffer; yet one of them became

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became viceroy of Mexico, and, at his death, was ſucceeded in the ſame regal office by his ſon.

Don Antonio Valdes, the preſent miniſter of the marine, ſtands indebted to his merit for his high ſtation. As a captain of the navy, and as a commodore, he was diſtinguiſhed; and how much the nation is indebted to his ſingular abilities, and more than common application, will appear, when, in deſcribing Cadiz, I ſhall give a ſtatement of the marine, and ſhew the increaſing power of the Spaniſh navy. Till I had been at the ſea-ports, I could form no idea of his ſuperior talents, and therefore profited little by his condeſcending permiſſion to approach him. I can only now lament that I did not ſpend more time in his ſociety.

Of *Count Campomanes* I have already ſpoken. All who have the honour of being near to him, admire the boundleſs extent of his abilities, which embrace every ſcience; and the goodneſs of his heart, which turns all his knowledge towards one object—the proſperity of his country. He ſhines in all the ſeveral branches; but his peculiar excellence is in law, hiſtory, and political

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political œconomy. He is wholly indebted to himſelf, and to the voice of the nation, for his elevation.

It muſt be ſtriking to an Engliſhman to ſee all the moſt important offices occupied by men, who have been taken from the lower ranks, and not to find among them one man of faſhion, not one grandee of Spain. Theſe are all preciſely where they ought to be: lords of the bed-chamber, grooms of the ſtole, maſters of the horſe, all near the throne, partaking of its ſplendor, whilſt the drudgery and reſponſibility of office is left to others, who are better qualified to bear that burden. In England it is far otherwiſe: our men of faſhion, from their infancy, are trained to high purſuits; at ſchool they learn ambition, and when they come into the houſe of commons, they ſee, that to be diſtinguiſhed for application and for knowledge is the only way to gain conſideration, and to arrive at power. This proves ſuch a ſpur to diligence, that, in ſpite of their hereditary wealth and honours, many of the greateſt men, and the moſt able miniſters, are to be found among our principal nobility.

In

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In Spain, on the contrary, in the higher ranks, all is torpid. Satisfied with hereditary wealth and honours, the grandees ſink into mere ſenſualiſts, and are loſt. Nay, ſuch is the general neglect of education, that the principal miniſters find it difficult to procure proper men to fill the common offices.

When my friend, don Eugenio Izquierdo, returned from Paris, where he had been educated for the royal cabinet of natural hiſtory, of which he was appointed director on the death of Davila; he was deſired immediately to make out a catalogue, in order to convince the world, that Spain was not behind other nations in this intereſting branch of ſcience, and that he might aſſiſt to wipe away the reproach, which M. Maſſon had caſt upon the nation. He was revolving this commiſſion in his mind, but ere he could begin the previous arrangement of the cabinet, he was hurried away to teach the art of dying, and to ſuperintend the cloth manufacture at Guadalajara, where all was in confuſion, and where every branch required a reform.

According to the maxim of no contemptible

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temptible philoſopher, *a wiſe man is every thing*, either an humble mechanic, or a miniſter of ſtate; and certainly, with time, he may be qualified for either. But however qualified my friend might be for this new employment, he could not ſhew himſelf at Guadalajara without danger; for the moment he appeared, he found himſelf in a neſt of hornets. All who had been accuſtomed to eat the bread of idleneſs, to receive their ſalaries, and to neglect their work, or to ſhare among themſelves the plunder of the ſtate, became his enemies, and, as I underſtand, never left him, till by their perſecution, at the end of two years, they had compelled him to retire.

His friend Angulo, trained by him at Paris for the branch of natural hiſtory, whoſe ambition it was to be vice-director of the cabinet, no ſooner returned to court, than he was appointed chemical profeſſor, and received orders to prepare for giving a courſe of lectures the enſuing winter. Aſtoniſhed at this command, he inquired for the elaboratory and the apparatus. He was told, that the foundation of the former ſhould be inſtantly laid, and that he himſelf

must

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muſt give orders for the latter. But before he had time to look about him, he was ſent by the miniſter of the finance to ſuperintend the working of a lead mine at Linares. My friend acquitted himſelf to the ſatisfaction of the miniſter, and was appointed director general of all the mines in Spain. In this capacity he was ſent to Riotinto, where I engaged to follow him, but when I came near the place, I found he had been diſpatched to another part of the kingdom, to inſpect a mine ſuppoſed to be of cinnabar. Samples of this ore had been ſent to the miniſter of the finance, with the quickſilver extracted from it, which was in abundance; and the moſt flattering hopes were entertained at Madrid of the wealth to be obtained from this new diſcovery. But, unfortunately, the whole was a deception; and my friend, mortified at firſt at not being able to detect a ſingle particle of mercury, was at laſt ſo happy as to extort a confeſſion from the impoſtor, of the means made uſe of to deceive the miniſter, under the expectation of being appointed manager of this rich mine.

Don Joſeph Clavijo had been manager of the

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the king's theatre; but when a proper perſon was wanted to conduct one of the public prints, he was appointed to that office, and, being a man of letters, he acquitted himſelf to the ſatisfaction of the court. On the death of M. Davila, when don Eugenio Izquierdo became the principal director of the cabinet, and a proper perſon, as vice director, was wanted to ſucceed him, the miniſter of finance fixed on my friend Clavijo, and will, I am perſuaded, find in him, that a wiſe man is every thing. This gentleman hath already tranſlated the works of the count de Buffon; and, ſhould he be left quietly in his department, from his abilities and his application, it may be hoped, that he will make a rapid progreſs in the ſcience of natural hiſtory. Yet, ſuch is the ſcarcity of able men, that, in all probability, M. Clavijo will ſoon receive ſome new commiſſion.

During my winter's reſidence at Madrid, I cultivated the acquaintance of colonel Nodin, an Italian officer in the Spaniſh ſervice, diſtinguiſhed for his proficiency in algebra. This gentleman was ſo happy as to attract the notice of the miniſter, and

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received a commiſſion to perfect the navigation at Tortoſa, where almoſt inſuperable difficulties occurred. He was preparing to ſet out, when I left Madrid with the pleaſing expectation of meeting him at the place of his deſtination; but on my arrival, I found that he had been ſent into the north of Spain, to make a road, where the miniſter of finance conceived that algebraical calculations might be uſeful.

It would be inexcuſeable in ſpeaking, even in the moſt tranſient manner of men, who are diſtinguiſhed in Madrid as employed about the court, not to mention the two brothers Yriarte, who, for taſte, for judgment, and for ſcience, have few ſuperiors in the moſt enlightened countries. Don Bernardo has ſome place in the finance, but his brother is the man of letters.

There was a time when the apothecary, don Caſimiro Gomez Ortega, was the only perſon qualified to teach either botany, chemiſtry, mineralogy, or natural hiſtory; but he has lived to ſee many competitors for fame, not excepting his favourite ſcience, in which he moſt excels.

Don

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Don Antonio Solano, profeſſor of experimental philoſophy, merits attention for the clearneſs and preciſion of his demonſtrations; but, unfortunately, although his lectures are delivered gratis, ſuch is the want of taſte for ſcience in Madrid, that nobody attends them.

Gratitude, as well as the higheſt veneration, requires that I ſhould mention don Franciſco Bayer, firſt librarian to his majeſty, and late preceptor to the infant don Gabriel, a prince who ſtands high in the republic of letters, for his elegant tranſlation of Salluſt; in this work we evidently ſee the maſter's hand, but the pupil is ſaid to deſerve his ſhare of praiſe.

The laſt perſon I ſhall mention, who is diſtinguiſhed for his talents, although not the leaſt deſerving of commendation, is Juan Bautiſta Muñoz, hiſtoriographer to the king, with ſpecial commiſſion to write the conqueſt of America. This gentleman honoured me with his friendſhip, and ſuffered me to examine freely all his manuſcripts. He was ſeven years collecting his materials, and, for that purpoſe, viſited every part of Spain, where the families and

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deſcendants of the firſt adventurers reſide, or where any public records are preſerved. His collections are voluminous, and, I have no doubt, will be given to the world with the impartiality becoming an hiſtorian, and with that degree of elegance, which may be well expected from an author of his ſuperior talents. He is a man of a clear head, a good claſſical ſcholar, and perfectly acquainted with the characteriſtic excellence of thoſe, either in Greece or Rome, who have been moſt admired for hiſtorical compoſition. From him, therefore, not merely ſomething new, but ſomething highly intereſting, may be expected, and ſuch as I may venture to ſay will vindicate the national character from the charge of cruelty, with which it has been ſtained, and leave the reproach, where we might naturally look for it, in the rapacity of undiſciplined and deſperate adventurers.

Had Dr. Robertſon, or had his friend Mr. Waddilove, known where to look for records, and ſpent ſeven years in making the collection, his work had been much more worthy of the public eye. He has, however, ſeized the ground, and when

theſe

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theſe new materials ſhall appear, he will employ them to advantage; and, both by his arrangement, and by the peculiar graces of his ſtile, confirm the reputation his former writings have acquired for him; and, if we may be allowed the expreſſion, put the laſt finiſh to the temple of his fame.

When I was about to leave Madrid, I addreſſed myſelf to my old friend Canoſa, and, in a laughing way, deſired that he would procure me letters of recommendation for the ſouthern provinces. He at once promiſed that I ſhould have them; but, not ſatisfied with this mode of application, I deſired Mr. Liſton to beg from count Florida Blanca a letter for Murcia, the place of his nativity. The count obligingly inquired, what route I meant to take? and, in a few days, ſent me letters to all the governors of provinces, and to ſome principal perſon in every city, through which I was to paſs.

Nothing then remained, but to form a party, and to hire a carriage for the journey.

In the mean time I procured proper paſſ-

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ports, one from the miniſter, another from count Campomanes, and a third from my valuable friend Eſcarano. The firſt was for the ſake of form; but the two latter might be of the moſt eſſential ſervice, and were actually uſeful to me on ſeveral occaſions. I likewiſe got myſelf introduced to the inquiſitor-general, not merely to ſatisfy a natural curioſity, but that, in caſe I ſhould ſtand in need of his protection, my name might not be altogether unknown to him.

Having adjuſted all matters for my journey, previous to my departure, I enquired into the prices of proviſions at Madrid, and found them to be as follow:

Bread, 6½ quarts *per* pound of 16 ounces;
Beef, - 14 ditto ditto;
Mutton, 15 ditto ditto.

A quart is $\frac{1}{64}$ of a penny, or a ſmall fraction more than a farthing. Eight quarts are equal to 2¼ pence Engliſh.

JOURNEY

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JOURNEY

FROM

MADRID TO SEVILLE.

15th February, 1787.

WHEN the day for our departure was arrived, we entered our *coche de colleras*, drawn by ſeven mules, and, paſſing through Valdemoro, came to Aranjuez in the evening.

At *Valdemoro*, a town containing one thouſand nine hundred and thirty-eight ſouls, with two convents, we found a royal manufactory of ſtockings, lately eſtabliſhed by the miniſter of finance, to honour the place of his nativity. The frames are about one hundred, not all as yet employed. The ſtockings are very weak, and badly woven;

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the worſted is only of two threads, and not well ſpun. In this manufacture, a good hand will earn twelve reals, or about 2*s*. 4½*d*. *per* day.

As the country was not new to me, my attention was chiefly occupied in reading my companions. With one of them, M. Seguier, a French captain in the Spaniſh ſervice, I was well acquainted, having met him often at the dukes de la Vauguion and Berwick. The two others were Colonel Davila, a native Spaniard, lately from Mexico, and a naval officer; the former going to Malaga, the latter to Cadiz. As theſe gentlemen had often travelled the ſame road, they knew where to lay in proviſions, and where to procure good wine; conſequently we wanted nothing, that money could procure.

The inn at Aranjuez is upon a large ſcale, making forty-four beds, all very clean and comfortable. It is royal property, and the king receives from it a rent of fifty-four thouſand reals, or £. 540 *per annum*.

The next day we paſſed through *Ocaña*, a conſiderable city, two leagues from Aranjuez, and nine from Madrid. It comprehends

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hends four pariſhes, containing four thouſand eight hundred and eighty-ſix ſouls, and ſupports ten convents. As it was too early to think of reſt, we proceeded four leagues further, to *La Guardia*; and although it is not the uſual ſtage, we found good accommodations. All the way from Madrid, the country is tolerably level; the ſoil is ſandy; the rock is gypſum; the produce chiefly corn, with ſome vines and olives. Here, in the famous country of La Mancha, we naturally looked out for wind-mills, which, as they have no ſtreams to grind their corn, we ſaw, as we expected, in the vicinity of every village. They have no oxen; and nothing but mules, or aſſes, are uſed for all the purpoſes of huſbandry.

La Guardia was formerly a place of ſtrength, and was long defended by the Moors; but now it appears to be verging to decay. It reckons ſtill about one thouſand families, conſiſting, according to the returns to government, of three thouſand three hundred and forty-four perſons; but, in fact, they have more than three thouſand who receive the ſacrament, and about eight hundred children under the communicating age.

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age. They have no manufacture except ſaltpetre, and that is not conſiderable: hence their poverty and wretchedneſs. Their lands are divided into ſmall allotments, but the chief proprietor is Don Diego de Plata. The rents are paid in corn.

The church is a very handſome well-proportioned building; the altars moſtly new, and ſimple. In one chapel are many good pictures by Angelus Nardi.

They have no beef. Mutton is twelve quarts, bread five quarts the pound of ſixteen ounces.

After dinner we proceeded two leagues to ſleep at *Tembleque*, a town of about two thouſand families, but reckoned to contain only four thouſand four hundred and eighteen ſouls, with one pariſh-church, one chapel, and one convent. The moſt remarkable thing here is a manufacture of ſaltpetre, in which are employed forty men in winter, ſixty in ſummer, making ſix thouſand arrobas every year. I found the manager more than commonly intelligent. He told me, that the expences, notwithſtanding the moſt rigid economy, amounted to ſix hundred thouſand reals; that is, to about four reals,

or

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or nearly 9½*d. per* pound, of which, according to this ſtatement, the labour coſts no more than one penny; ſo that the other eight pence halfpenny is for fewel, furnaces, management, intereſt of capital, and other incidental charges. Should we carry this calculation with us to Madrid, how much beyond what I have already ſtated will appear to be the loſs on thoſe extenſive works, where fewel is ſo ſcarce!

He informed me, that he collected all his earth from ſpots of ground, on which animal and vegetable ſubſtances had lain in a ſtate of putrefaction.

On Saturday, *February* 17th, we paſſed through *Camuñas*, a miſerable village containing about three hundred cottages, to *las Ventas de Puerto Lapiche*, having in theſe three laſt days travelled two and twenty leagues.

The country is flat, and the view to the north extenſive; but before we reached *las Ventas*, we had loſt ſight of the ſnowy mountains, which ſeparate the two Caſtilles. Under favourable circumſtances of air and elevation, I think they muſt be ſeen more than a hundred miles. The ſoil is a looſe

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ſooſe ſand of quartz, and the rock is granite. It is ploughed with two aſſes or two mules; and wherever it is watered by norias, produces plenty of corn. The wine is excellent, and in great abundance. The village of *Lapiche* is wretched; and the people appear half ſtarved, although their crops can never be diſappointed by the want of rain, for in the ſpace of about ſixty acres, I counted more than thirty norias.

The Venta is in the old Spaniſh ſtile. It is one hundred and fifty feet in length, and, independent of a communicating ſhed, or penthouſe, not more than ten feet wide. At one end is a chimney, by way of kitchen, ten feet ſquare, with an hearth in the middle, ſurrounded on three ſides by a bench, upon which the muletiers ſit by day, and lie down to ſleep by night; but by no means ſeparated from the long range of ſtables, that with primitive ſimplicity, under one hoſpitable roof,

——— ——— Ignemque Laremque
Et pecus et dominos communi clauderet umbra.
JUVENAL.

There is, adjoining to this, a court yard, with

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with a well in the middle of it, and at one end a penthouſe for carts and coaches. The bed-room is over the ſtable, and, according to cuſtom, all night long we heard, or might have heard, the tinkling bells on the heads of our mules, at leaſt as long as they were feeding.

Before we went to reſt, we entered into treaty with the curate for early maſs. He ſtood for ſixteen reals; but at laſt, on cloſing the bargain, he agreed for eight. Had he perſiſted in his demand, we muſt have complied; becauſe, to hear maſs on holidays in a catholic country, is indiſpenſable, and it would not have been convenient for us to ſtop upon the road.

From *las Ventas* we deſcended into an extenſive plain, bounded by high hills on every ſide, producing olives and corn, with ſaffron. At the end of eight leagues, we came to Manzanares. All the travellers on this road were well armed; and three monumental croſſes proved that their fears were not ill founded. It was Sunday, yet many ploughs were working. Their crops are watered by numerous norias.

Manzanares has one thouſand eight hundred

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dred families, ſix thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-eight ſouls, which proportion is itſelf a ſufficient index of their poverty. The houſes are built with mud, and the poor are almoſt naked. In the church we ſaw four good pictures.

The Caſtle, with a conſiderable eſtate, and the tithes, all belong to the knights of Calatrava, and are held by the infant don Antonio, yielding him a revenue of thirty thouſand ducats, or £. 3,295 per annum. We examined the premiſes, viewed the extenſive granaries, and taſted the rich variety of wines. The ſteward was ſending ſome to court, for the table of the infant, which appeared to me, without exception, the beſt in Spain. It had the flavour of the richeſt burgundy, with the ſtrength and body of the moſt generous port. After praiſing this wine, and thanking the ſteward for his civilities, we purſued our walk till the cloſe of day; when, at our return to the poſada, we had the happineſs of finding more than three gallons of this wine lodged there, and already depoſited in our *botas*, or leather bottles, for the journey. Unfortunately, the two coachmen ſoon diſ-

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covered its peculiar excellence, and, by their aſſiſtance, we finiſhed in one day, what I had perſuaded myſelf would ſerve us three.

The poſada is more comfortable, and upon a larger ſcale than common, with two and thirty beds, all upon the ground floor. The building is about one hundred and eighty feet long, by thirty-ſix or forty wide, with one long range through the middle for coach-houſe and ſtable, from which the kitchen is ſcarcely ſeparated by a partial ſkreen. The bed-rooms to the right and left, are about ſixteen feet by fourteen, each after the Spaniſh faſhion, furniſhed with four beds.

On Monday, 19th *February*, we left Manzanares early in the morning, paſſing through a level country to *Valdepeñas*, at the diſtance of four leagues, to dinner. The ſoil is ſand with gravel, producing ſome olives and much wine, but moſtly corn. The norias are well conſtructed, with the great wheel of iron inſtead of wood.

The rock is ſchiſt.

In the way we paſſed two monumental croſſes.

Valdepeñas is famous for good wine, which

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which is ſent chiefly to Madrid; but whenever the navigation ſhall be opened, as propoſed, to Seville, this, with many other curious wines, the produce of La Mancha, will find its way to England, and will be in great requeſt. In this town are ſeven thouſand ſix hundred and fifty-one ſouls.

From hence we paſſed through *Santa Cruz*, and then began to aſcend among rough uncultivated hills, till we took up our lodging at *La Conception de Almuradiel*. This little village, of thirty-ſix families, is the firſt we meet with in the new ſettlements of the Sierra Morena. It was built A. D. 1781.

The inn ſurrounds a court yard of ninety feet by fifty, with a coach-houſe adjoining, of one hundred and fifty feet by forty, and has ſtables in proportion. The rooms are well fitted up, each with a chimney, and two alcoves for beds. Above theſe are the apartments of the adminiſtrator, his deputy, and his ſervants; with extenſive granaries, and a corridor, forming a communication around it. Every thing here is upon the king's account, and, of courſe, little atten-

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tion is paid to travellers. They gave me, for the firſt time in Spain, dirty ſheets; but, after ſome remonſtrances, the adminiſtrator lent me a clean pair of his own.

Every ſettler has ninety *fanegas* of land in *emphiteuſis*, or as a copyhold, paying only the tithes to the king, and twelve quartos, or about three pence acknowledgment for the houſe.

Bread ſells for eight quartos and an half a pound.

Ram mutton, ten quartos.

Beef they have none.

Wine is two quartos the quartillo, or about four pence ſterling the gallon.

Santa Elena is peopled chiefly with Germans. In the vicinity we met with numerous cottages, not collected together, but ſcattered over the country, according to the plan recommended by the Abbé Raynal; but they ſoon diſcovered, what in this inſtance he ſeems to have overlooked, that man is happier in ſociety, and therefore gave up this mode of ſettlement for villages.

The country is highly cultivated; yet ſo

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many trees are left, that the whole, at a little diſtance, appears like an extenſive foreſt.

They plough with cows, and make diſpatch. In this part of Spain, and indeed all through Andalucia and La Mancha, milk, butter and cheeſe, appear to have no value, or at leaſt it may be ſaid that in thoſe provinces they have no dairies, and very ſeldom milk their cows. *Gazpacho* ſeems to ſupply the place of buttermilk and whey among the peaſants, who during the heat of ſummer live chiefly on a mixture of *bread, vinegar and oil.* There can be no doubt that as the country improves in cultivation, they will learn to derive a profit from their milk.

In one cottage we ſaw tame partridges. Theſe are trained, like decoy ducks, to collect others.

In the higher regions of the Sierra we find the granite; but, as we deſcend, the ſchiſt again appears, with limeſtone and gypſum.

At noon we came to *Carolina*, the capital of theſe new ſettlements.

Their founder, D. Pablo de Olavide, is a

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native of Peru, who, being protected by count d'Aranda, was made at firſt ſyndic of Madrid, and afterwards *aſſiſtente de Sevilla*. Whilſt in this employment, he conceived the idea of introducing agriculture and arts in the deſerted mountains of the Sierra, where rapine and violence had for ages eſtabliſhed their dominion. The difficulty was to procure ſettlers. One Turrigel, of Bavaria, contracted for ſix thouſand huſbandmen; but, inſtead of men trained to agriculture, he brought only vagabonds, who all either died or were diſperſed, without advancing the work for which, at an immenſe expence, they had been brought.

Settlers were then invited from all parts of Germany, and, in order to encourage emigration from thoſe hives, every new comer, on application, received a lot of land, a houſe, two cows, one aſs, five ſheep, as many goats, ſix hens with a cock, one pregnant ſow, a plough, and a pick-axe, with other emoluments of inferior value. They begin with fifty fanegas of land, of ten thouſand ſquare feet each; and when they have cultivated theſe, they receive fifty more, free of all rent for the firſt ten

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years, and after that period, ſubject only to the royal tithes. No proprietor can alienate his land to one who is in poſſeſſion of a lot, in order that the farms may never become either too little, or too big. They are not permitted to ſettle, either near to a moraſs or to ſtagnant water.

The ſoil about Carolina conſiſts chiefly of ſand; and the rock is either limeſtone or gypſum.

They produce olives, oil, wine, ſilk, wheat, barley, rye, oats, peas, Indian wheat, and lentils.

They have no manufactures, and therefore cannot profitably employ all their people. Hence it is, that theſe new ſettlements ſwarm with half naked beggars.

The numbers, at preſent ſettled in the Sierra Morena, will appear from the government returns, and are as follows: unmarried men, two thouſand three hundred and eighty-eight; unmarried women, one thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-four; married men, one thouſand ſix hundred and twenty; married women, one thouſand ſix hundred and nine; widows, three hundred and eighteen; widowers, two

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hundred and nine; total ſeven thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-eight. Of theſe, the huſbandmen are one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four; day labourers, four hundred and eleven; artiſans, one hundred and ſeventy-two; ſervants, three hundred and ſixty-ſix; employed by the crown, one hundred and eighteen.

Conſidering that all theſe were aſſembled and eſtabliſhed in leſs than ten years, we muſt admire the energy and zeal of Olavidè. They have been collected, at a vaſt expence, from diſtant countries, and enjoy ſingular immunities, yet the colony is far from proſpering. The reaſon of this muſt be ſought for, either in the climate, the ſoil, the government, the morals of the people, or in the want of a market for the ſurplus of their produce.

It is allowed that no country, if the climate is unhealthy, or if the ſoil is barren, if it wants corn and cattle, or if it is deſtitute of fewel, can be populous; but, in the Sierra, excepting tertians, they are ſubject to few diſeaſes; the ſoil is certainly productive both in fruits and herbage, and it abounds with wood. Suppoſing

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the government of a country to be either weak or vicious, the peaſant having no certainty of protection for his perſon and for his property, the moſt fertile ſoil, notwithſtanding repeated efforts to increaſe its population, will be deſerted. Or, ſhould the morals be corrupt, the people will not increaſe and multiply; the births will not fill up the vacancies made by death; and, to keep up the population, emigrants muſt be invited from more prolific nations. But neither is it from theſe cauſes that the Sierra languiſhes, becauſe the people are ſelf governed, that is to ſay, five villages unite to chooſe a ſenate for the adminiſtration, both temporal and ſpiritual; and as for luxury, with its attendant vices, it is yet unknown. We muſt refer, therefore, to the want of a market, for the unproſperous condition of this new, this ſequeſtered colony.

The principles, thus briefly ſtated, are confirmed by the experience of all nations. In favourable circumſtances, a country, not fully peopled, will double its numbers at leaſt every five and twenty years. Whenever, therefore, inſtead of thus advancing,

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vancing, a defective population is at a ſtand, or going backwards, we may be certain that, if ſought for, ſome of the cauſes above ſuggeſted will be diſcovered.

At Carolina we met with comfortable rooms in a poſada, which is kept by a Frenchman, and fared ſumptuouſly. It was February 20th, yet we had cauliflowers and green peas.

The people in this diſtrict being ſubject to agues, and to ſuch intermittents, as, when neglected, ſoon turn putrid, I looked about for ſtagnant water, and for marſh miaſma; but I could find none, and am therefore ſatisfied, that theſe diſeaſes may ariſe from other cauſes, beſide thoſe which have been commonly aſſigned.

Thus far the road through the Sierra is excellent; but all beyond is in a ſtate of nature.

About two leagues from Carolina is *Guadaroman*, a village compriſing one hundred families, each poſſeſſing its fifty fanegas of land. It is ſituated on a gentle declivity, by the ſide of a purling brook, in a fertile ſpot, which is chequered with corn fields

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and little groves of ilex. The diſtant hills are beautifully varied in their forms, and covered with wood. The ſoil is ſandy, and the trees are healthy; yet the inhabitants ſuffer much by intermittent fevers.

They have no beef. Mutton is ſeventeen quarts, or four pence three farthings the pound of two and thirty ounces; and bread is half that price.

The inhabitants are chiefly Germans, who, both by their induſtry and frugality, do credit to their country.

As we increaſe our diſtance from this little colony, we loſe ſight of every thing which marks the reſidence of man; but, in approaching *Bailen*, we paſs through immenſe plantations of the olive, belonging, with that village, and a vaſt extent of country round it, to the counteſs of Peñafiel. In the way we ſee *Baños*, with its caſtle, ſituated on a hill, and commanding a diſtant proſpect. Having quitted Bailen, we entered a foreſt, and at the top of a hill ſaw one monumental croſs; then, leaving *Zoguega*, with its convent, to the right, we came to the venta of Sequaca; and after dinner,

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dinner, ſometimes traverſing extenſive foreſts of the ilex, at others meeting with plantations of the olive, we came to Andujar.

The rock, wherever it is laid bare by torrents, appears to be hard granite, of different ſpecies, both of the red and of the white.

Andujar is ſituated in a rich and highly cultivated plain. It numbers ſix thouſand eight hundred families, five pariſh churches, and ten convents, but has no manufacture. The caſtle carries the marks of great antiquity; it was taken from the Moors, A. D. 1225, by Ferdinand III. ſurnamed *El Santo*.

Thurſday, *February* 22, at five in the morning, when we left Andujar, after croſſing the bridge over the Guadalquivir, and entering a plantation of olives, my companions each cocked his piſtol, and held it to the window, whilſt a ſoldier, with his gun, walked by our ſide, and the coachmen were charged inſtantly to ſtop, if any one appeared. Theſe precautions, I apprehend, were needleſs, becauſe it was well known that we were armed; but as ſeveral robberies

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beries had been committed near the city, they thought it right to be upon their guard. At break of day, as we advanced into a more open country, our apprehenſions vaniſhed, and the piſtols were uncocked.

All the hills we croſſed, bounding the river to the north, are covered with ſmooth, round, limeſtone gravel, and ſome flints; but in approaching to Del Carpio, the rock appears formed of ſilicious grit with mica, evidently from decompoſed granite.

In *Del Carpio* are ſeven hundred and fifty houſes, with an old caſtle, a poſt-houſe, and a well built poſada.

As ſoon as we arrived, we paid our reſpects to the corregidor, and ſhewed him our paſſports, in order to ſecure a good reception at our inn. The reaſon of this precaution was, that one of our companions had formerly quarrelled with the good man of the inn, and had cauſed him to be ſent to priſon, for attempting to ſtab him with a knife. The man kept out of ſight, but his wife was determined to take revenge. It was little ſhe could do; but all ſhe could, ſhe did, to teſtify her reſentment. For this

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this purpoſe ſhe aſſigned us a miſerable room, with four mattreſſes, each occupying its corner, and ſtretched upon the floor. Fearing to be devoured by fleas, I choſe rather to ſleep in our carriage. In the middle of the night the treading of a foot awakened my attention; and, as there was a lamp, I looked out to ſee who was in motion. My ſituation rendered me inviſible, and the light enabled me clearly to diſcern every thing that paſſed. The perſon who was moving was a muleteer, and his object was to ſee what he could ſteal. For this purpoſe he examined the kitchen, then viſited the paſſage communicating with the bed-rooms, and tried at every door, but finding them all faſtened, he came to the coach; where ſeeing me, he fled back into the ſtable, and hid himſelf.

Proviſions here are cheap. They kill no mutton: beef, goat, and kid, are ſixteen quarts a pound conſiſting of thirty-two ounces.

The land in the vicinity is rich. It belongs chiefly to the dutcheſs of Alba, and her corregidor adminiſters it for her. He appears

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appears to manage well. The plantations of olives are extenſive, and the trees are not, like thoſe of the counteſs of Peñafiel round Bailen, worn out with age, but young and healthy.

As we draw nigh to Cordova, the higheſt hills are covered with flints and bowlder ſtones, or large ſmooth tumblers, of limeſtone, ſilicious grit, and granite; and, as we approach the river, we diſcover a bed of gravel, of all the above ſpecies, twelve or fourteen feet in thickneſs.

Cordova is ſituated in a plain of great extent, which is bounded on the ſouth by ſwelling hills cultivated to their very ſummits, and on the north by a chain of rugged mountains, the continuation of the Sierra Morena. Through the midſt of the plain runs the Guadalquivir; and the whole country being well wooded, well watered, and well cultivated, cannot be ſurpaſſed either in riches or in beauty. Here, for the firſt time ſince I left Barcelona, I rejoiced to find the fig, the orange, and the palm, in great abundance. It is a moſt enchanting ſpot.

This city contains thirty-two thouſand ſouls,

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ſouls, fourteen pariſhes, and forty-four convents.

The firſt thing I did on my arrival, was to preſent myſelf before the intendant, with my letter from count Florida Blanca. He received me with politeneſs, and preſſed me to prolong my ſtay; but, unfortunately, I had made engagements, and therefore proceeded the next day. All that I could do was to viſit the great church, and with this I was exceedingly delighted. Its numerous pillars, arranged in quincunx, appeared like a grove of ſaplings; and are ſaid to be eight hundred, but I had not time to count them, yet I ſhould conceive them to be many more. It was a moſque. The dimenſions are five hundred and ten feet, by four hundred and twenty.

I was ſtruck with the multitude of beggars in every ſtreet; and, upon inquiry, ſoon found the cauſe to be the miſtaken benevolence of the biſhop, of the canons, and of the convents, in diſtributing alms to all who aſk. The biſhopric is worth eighty thouſand five hundred ducats, or £. 8,843 pounds ſterling, per annum. Out of this income the biſhop gives money every

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every day, alternately to the men and to the women, and on ſome days he has relieved more than ſeven thouſand perſons. Beſides pecuniary donations, he diſtributes daily thirty fanegas of corn; yet, notwithſtanding this more than ample proviſion for the indolent and vicious, many are ſaid to have periſhed laſt year for want of bread.

The chief diſeaſes are tertians and putrid fevers. Theſe ariſe from the quantity of cucumbers and melons they eat, not only in the ſummer, but early in the ſpring.

Proviſions are, beef thirteen quarts the double pound, mutton fifteen, pork twenty-two, wine ſix quarts the quartillo, or about one ſhilling the gallon. Labourers expect ſeven or eight reals a day, or, if they are victualled, only three.

Cordova had the honour of giving birth to Seneca and Lucan; and when Abdoulraman, after ſubduing the ſouth of Spain, had eſtabliſhed here the ſeat of his dominion, (A. D. 759), the ſciences, with arts and arms, which were every where elſe abandoned, took up their reſidence, and flouriſhed in this city.

Saturday, February 24, at ſix in the morning,

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morning, we ſet forwards on our journey, having joined another coach, which was going the ſame road with four gentlemen well armed. In travelling through Spain, I have conſtantly obſerved, that, wherever danger is apprehended, travellers aſſociate, and form ſometimes conſiderable bodies, yet without any communication, or verbal engagement for mutual defence, or any other bond of union beſide their fears. Influenced by theſe alone, they unite their forces, and make a tacit agreement to ſupport each other, or at leaſt, by their numbers, to intimidate the thieves. One of our companions, the naval officer, not ſatisfied with this reinforcement; in addition to the ſoldier, who attended our captain by way of a ſervant and a guard, hired two marines. Thus eſcorted, we proceeded with confidence, yet with circumſpection; thinking at leaſt to have a view of the villains, who had been robbing on this road, but happily we ſaw nothing of them.

In traverſing the downs, I obſerved on the ſummit of the higheſt hill, at the diſtance of about two leagues from the Guadalquivir, the ſurface covered with large bowlder

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bowlder ſtones, of the ſame ſpecies with thoſe already mentioned in the approach to Cordova. Such facts ſhould be treaſured in the memory.

We came at noon to *Charlotta*, a new ſettlement, and at preſent in its infancy, like thoſe of the Sierra Morena. The country is beautiful, the ſoil rich, the herbage luxuriant, and the oxen large. In the poſada we had a French cook, and fared well. The price of proviſions is here, beef eighteen quarts, mutton twenty, kid eighteen, bread eleven for a pound of thirty-two ounces, wine ten quarts the quartillo.

From hence, after dinner, we proceeded over the downs, admiring their extreme fertility, of which, in a few cultivated ſpots, we were able to judge by the luxuriant crops of beans then in full bloſſom. Theſe were well hoed. As we approached Ecija, the face of the country improved; cultivation appeared to be carried on with ſpirit; the oxen became remarkable for beauty and for ſize; and the plantations of olives ſhewed the richneſs of the ſoil.

The rock is a pudding ſtone, and therefore,

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fore, with the ſmooth tumblers above deſcribed, prove to a demonſtration that the whole country partook of the grand revolution, to which I have ſo frequently referred.

Ecija is eight leagues from Cordova. It is delightfully ſituated on the banks of the Xenil, with pleaſant walks, ſerving, like thoſe of the great cities in Spain, for the evening reſort. It contains twenty-eight thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-ſix ſouls, and has ſix pariſh churches, eight chapels, twenty convents, and ſix hoſpitals.

The churches, built entirely of brick, are fitted up in the old taſte, and crowded with pillars, which are loaded with prepoſterous ornaments, and covered with gold. The moſt extravagant of all is the church of *nueſtra Señora del Roſario*, in the convent of the Dominicans; this may ſerve as a model for the perfection of vitiated taſte.

The Plaza Mayor is a fine object, very ſpacious, and much to be admired for its balconies, occupying the whole front of the houſes.

When we arrived, we found every one engaged in talking over a defeat, which the

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king's troops had ſuffered the preceding day from the ſmugglers, near one hundred of whom, well armed, entering the city, had driven away the military, had killed one man, and had then, unmoleſted, ſold their ſnuff to the inhabitants. This violence was more than uſual, and proceeded from the bad policy of government, in raiſing the price of tobacco from thirty to forty reals the pound, whilſt the illicit trader purchaſed the ſame commodity in Portugal for eight. With ſuch encouragement for defrauding the revenue, it will never be poſſible to prevent this trade; and whilſt men have ſuch powerful inducements to violate the laws, no government, how ſtrenuous ſoever its exertions, and how cruel ſoever the puniſhment inflicted on offenders, will ever be able to maintain a good police. In Spain, unleſs it be accompanied with murder, the penalty for ſmuggling is commonly a confinement for ſeven or ten years to hard labour in the *preſidios*; where, by communication with profligate and hardened villains, who are under ſimilar correction, they are prepared for the perpetration of the moſt atrocious crimes; and, thus qualified, they are turned looſe

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looſe upon the public. Previous to this part of his education, the ſmuggler ſeldom robs on the highway, unleſs when he has been plundered, and is therefore more than commonly diſtreſſed for want of horſes, of money, or of arms. In ſuch circumſtances he becomes outrageous, and frequently begins with murdering the traveller, whom he means to rob.

Farmers in this vicinity rent dear, paying commonly two buſhels of wheat and one of barley for every buſhel of their ſeed; or if they pay a ſtipulated ſum of money, it is not immediately to the land-owner, but, as under-tenants, to rich land-jobbers; and therefore they can expect no moderation. Farms, if incloſed, let much higher than thoſe which are open, becauſe the latter are liable to be fed by the Merino ſheep; whereas, ſhould they enter the former, one-fifth of the number treſpaſſing would be forfeited. This, however, proves a never-failing ſource of quarrels and contentions between the occupiers of land and thoſe, who may be called graziers, that is, the proprietors of the Merino flock, who, under the ſanction of a peculiar code, claim

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the privilege of feeding, not only in the common paſture, but even in plantations of olives. The murders conſequent on theſe quarrels have been more than two hundred in the ſpace of a few years; and the litigations have coſt the contending parties more than the value, both of their ſheep and of their olives. The council of Caſtille interfered, in the year 1570, to prohibit this; but the great ſheep-maſters appeal to their own courts, plead their privilege, as granted by the Meſta code, and ſupport their claim by force.

Throughout the whole province of Andaluſia, cities and boroughs have immenſe poſſeſſions, in many inſtances extending to the diſtance of three leagues from them every way, including thus more than two hundred thouſand acres, either of waſte land, or of ſuch as might be cultivated, if it were not too remote from the habitation of the farmer. Of theſe, not one-fourth part is broken up by the plough; and that, which remains uncultivated, rather checks than promotes the breed of cattle. In ſhort, according to the opinion of the beſt patriots in Spain, Andaluſia is ruined by high rents,

and

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and by common paſtures. (*V.* Memorias de la Sociedad Economica. Madrid.)

February 25. At five in the morning, we left Ecija, and followed the Roman cauſeway leading from Cordova to Seville, till we came to Carmona. The country through which we paſſed belongs to the crown, and will be improved as faſt as emigrants can be induced to come. At preſent little is cultivated, and that little, bears the face of wretchedneſs, exhibiting ruined cottages, and half-naked peaſants. We converſed with a Frenchman, who had heen here eighteen years, and during that period had been often removed from his plantation, becauſe, by his diligence and ſkill, he had improved his allotment, which being given to ſlovens, he was compelled to take new land. It is true they always gave him, what they conſidered as an equivalent, not intending to injure him, but meaning only to avail themſelves of his ſuperior application and abilities; yet, in the end, they reduced him to poverty, and broke his ſpirit. This, he informed us, was no uncommon caſe; and, from the miſery every where viſible in

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theſe new colonies, I am inclined to credit his report.

The botanical productions are chiefly the ilex, the myrtle, the gum ciſtus, the lavender, a ſpecies of the Daphne, and a plant called *lentiſcus*.

Carmona is built on a declivity, looking down upon a rich valley, which is bounded by diſtant hills, excepting only to the ſouth, where a wide opening gives paſſage to the Guadalquivir.

It contains twelve thouſand ſix hundred and eighty-five ſouls, and includes ſeven pariſh churches, with five convents for men, two for women, and two hoſpitals. Here they reckon more than a hundred oil-mills.

As ſoon as we arrived, although the ſun was ſet, I took horſes, and went off for Seville, that I might have a comfortable bed. The diſtance is ſix leagues, or about twenty miles, and the charge was one hundred and twenty reals, or four-and-twenty ſhillings, including the licence, which muſt always be taken out, when you begin a journey with poſt horſes.

It being dark, I could not ſee the country,

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try, but I found that it was level, that the ſoil was ſandy, and, by the inceſſant croaking of frogs, I concluded that every ditch was full of ſtagnant water.

At ten in the evening I arrived at Seville, well contented with my horſes, having travelled the ſix leagues in little more than two hours. Indeed, no horſes can move more pleaſantly, than thoſe of Andaluſia, cantering the whole way, without needing either whip or ſpur. I took up my lodging at the poſada de la Baviere, and ſlept more comfortably than I had done ſince we left Madrid.

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SEVILLE.

THE morning after my arrival I examined my letters. Among the perſons of diſtinction and authority, to whom I was recommended, I judged, as an eccleſiaſtic, my firſt attention to be due to the archbiſhop, and therefore I haſtened early to his palace. He received me with politeneſs, permitted me to kiſs his ring, made me ſit down, and then, having read my letter, he told me, that as long as I continued at Seville I muſt dine every day with him, unleſs when I ſhould be more agreeably engaged. After ſome little converſation, he deſired to ſee the addreſs of my other letters, and calling a page, he ordered that a coach ſhould be got ready, and that one of his chaplains ſhould attend me, to deliver my letters, and to ſhew me every thing worthy

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of attention in the city. When I left him, he desired me to come back to dinner, telling me, that during my stay, that coach would be wholly at my service. Agreeable to this invitation I returned, and not only dined with him that day, but almost every day during a fortnight's residence at Seville. I was indeed often pressingly invited by other families; but, as it was the season of lent, and as fish, in Spain, never agreed with me, I declined their invitations. At the archbishop's table were many aged persons, who were supposed to be infirm, and therefore for them were provided a variety of dishes, such as others did not feel themselves at liberty to touch. To this circumstance I reckon myself indebted for returning health; because, for want of custom, and in a weakly condition at the time, I should never have been able to endure a fast, which, with the exception of the intervening sabbaths, is in fact, although not by precept, a fast of forty days.

The archbishop is well lodged, and keeps a hospitable table. He is quite the man of fashion: his manners are engaging, and his conversation lively. His usual com-

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company at dinner was his confeſſor, his chaplains, his ſecretaries, and a few friends. He was attended by his pages, who are generally young men of family, recommended to his patronage, and educated under his inſpection. The librarian ſometimes ſat down at the table, at other times waited behind a chair. He was commonly my guide, and with him I viſited every corner of the city.

Seville ſtands on the banks of the Guadalquivir, in the midſt of a rich, and, to the eye, a boundleſs plain. It is ſurrounded by a wall of more than a league in circumference, with one hundred and ſeventy-ſix towers. Over one of the gates is the following inſcription:

Condidit Alcides, renovavit Julius Urbem,
Reſtituit Chriſto Fernandus Tertius, Heros.

Which, over another gate, is thus tranſlated:

Hercules me edifico;
Julio Ceſar me cercò
De Muros y torres altas;
Y el Rey ſanto me gano
Con Garci Perez de Vargas.

The

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The ſtreets are narrow, and ſome of them ſo contracted, that you may touch both walls at the ſame time. Few are wide enough for carriages; and many, through which coaches paſs, ſhew, by the deep furrows in the walls, that one nave touched, and often both at the ſame time.

Seville is ſaid to contain eighty thouſand two hundred and ſixty-eight ſouls, and is divided into thirty pariſhes. It has eighty-four convents, with twenty-four hoſpitals.

Of the public edifices, the firſt to demand attention is the cathedral, a building of ſingular magnificence, but admired chiefly for its tower, the work of Güever, the Moor. He made it originally two hundred and fifty feet high, but A. D. 1568, it was raiſed one hundred more, and is therefore, at preſent, three hundred and fifty feet. It has no ſteps, nor are they wanted; becauſe the inclined plain is ſo eaſy of aſcent, that a horſe might trot from the bottom to the top; at the ſame time it is ſo ſpacious, that two horſemen may ride abreaſt. On the top of this tower is the Giralda, or large brazen image, which, with its palm-

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branch, weighs near one ton and an half, yet turns with the ſlighteſt variation of the wind.

The dimenſions of the cathedral are four hundred and twenty feet, by two hundred and ſixty-three; and the height is one hundred and twenty-ſix. It was built A. D. 1401. It receives light by fourſcore windows with painted glaſs, the work of Arnao of Flanders, each of which coſt one thouſand ducats.

The treaſures of this church are ineſtimable: one altar is wholly ſilver, with all its ornaments, as are the images, large as life, of S. Iſidore and S. Leander, and a cuſtodia or tabernacle for the hoſt, more than four yards high, adorned with eight and forty columns; yet theſe are trifling in value, when compared with the gold and precious ſtones depoſited by the piety and zeal of catholics, during the period in which all the wealth of a newly-diſcovered world flowed into this city. The profuſion of gold, of ſilver, and of gems, would be more ſtriking, were not the attention occupied and loſt in admiration of innumerable pictures, the works of thoſe Spaniſh maſters

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maſters who flouriſhed, immediately after the revival of the art, in Seville. Every chapel preſerves ſome monuments of their ſuperior ſkill. Of theſe, the moſt conſpicuous are of Luis de Vargas, and of Fr. Zurbaran, but chiefly of Murillo. By the laſt is a Nativity in the chapel of the Conception, and, near the baptiſmal font, S. Anthony of Padua, with the Baptiſm of Chriſt. In the principal ſacriſty, are his much-admired pictures of S. Iſidore, with his brother S. Leander; and in another ſacriſty, his Holy Family, with an Ecce homo by Morales. The chapter-houſe is wholly devoted to Murillo, and the chapel of S. Peter is given up to Zurbaran. The works of Luis de Vargas are diſperſed in various places; but his famous picture, called de la Gamba, is in a chapel near the gate of S. Chriſtopher, and merits particular attention.

To the cathedral belongs a library of twenty thouſand volumes, collected by Hernando, ſon to Chriſtobal Colon, the firſt diſcoverer of America, a man of taſte, and much admired in his day for learning. It is to be lamented, that modern publications

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lications have not been added to complete, what was ſo well begun by him.

I was much pleaſed with the conſtruction of a new organ, containing five thouſand three hundred pipes, with one hundred and ten ſtops, which latter, as the builder told me, is fifty more than are in the famous one of Harlem; yet, ſo ample are the bellows, that, when ſtretched, they ſupply the full organ fifteen minutes. The mode of filling them with air is ſingular; for inſtead of working with his hands, a man walks backwards and forwards along an inclined plain of about fifteen feet in length, which is balanced in the middle on its axis; under each end is a pair of bellows, of about ſix feet by three and an half. Theſe communicate with five other pair united by a bar; and the latter are ſo contrived, that when they are in danger of being overſtrained, a valve is lifted up, and gives them relief. Paſſing ten times along the inclined plain fills all theſe veſſels.

In the cathedral are eighty-two altars, at which are ſaid daily five hundred maſſes. The annual conſumption is fifteen hundred

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dred arrobas of wine, eight hundred of oil, and of wax about one thouſand.

The wealth belonging to this chapter may be eſtimated by the numbers that are ſupported by it.

The archbiſhop, with a revenue of three hundred thouſand ducats; or, in ſterling, nearly thirty-three thouſand pounds a year.

Eleven dignitaries, who wear the mitre on high feſtivals, amply, but not equally, provided for.

Forty canons of forty thouſand reals, or about four hundred pounds each, per annum.

Twenty prebendaries, with an income of thirty thouſand reals each.

Twenty-one minor canons, at twenty thouſand reals each.

Beſide theſe, they have twenty chanters, called Veinteneros, with three aſſiſtants, called Sochantrès, two beadles, one maſter of the ceremonies, with a deputy, three attendants to call the roll and mark the abſentees, thirty-ſix boys for ſinging and for the ſervice of the altar, with their rector, vice rector, and muſic maſters; nineteen chaplains,

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chaplains, four curates, four confeſſors, twenty-three muſicians, and four ſupernumeraries; in all, two hundred and thirty-five.

Many of the convents are remarkable for the beauty of their architecture; but, in Seville, the eye covets only pictures, and amidſt the profuſion of theſe, it overlooks works, which, in other ſituations, would rivet the attention, and every where fixes on the pencil of Murillo. His moſt famous performances are in the Hoſpital de la Caridad, and, ſuited to the inſtitution, expreſs ſome act of charity; ſuch as, the miracle of the Loaves and Fiſhes; the Smiting of the Rock in Horeb; the Pool of Bethesda; the Reception of the returning Prodigal; Abraham addreſſing the three angels, and preſſing them to enter his habitation; the Deliverance of Peter from the Priſon; and Charity, in the perſon of Elizabeth, waſhing the wounds and curing the diſeaſes of the poor. Beſide theſe, in the ſame hoſpital, is the Annunciation of the bleſſed Virgin; and two little pictures, the one of the infant Jeſus, the other of John.

The church of the Capuchins is richly furniſhed

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furniſhed with his works; and, although in theſe the compoſition is more ſimple than in the former, yet they may be conſidered as ſome of the beſt of his productions. Eleven of his pictures are to be ſeen in a chapel called de la vera Cruz, belonging to the Franciſcans. Theſe do much credit to his pencil; and, not inferior to them, are many preſerved in other convents; ſuch as, an Ecce homo, and the bleſſed Virgin, with the infant Jeſus, in the church of the Carmelites; the Flight into Egypt, in that of la Merced Calzada; a rich variety of ſubjects in S. Maria de la blanca; and S. Auguſtin writing, with S. Thomas of Villanueva, ſtripping himſelf to clothe the poor, in the convent of the Auguſtin friars, near the gate of Carmona. In my opinion, the moſt maſterly of all his works is in the refectory of an hoſpital deſigned for the reception of ſuperannuated prieſts. It repreſents an angel holding a baſket to the infant Jeſus, who, ſtanding on his mother's lap, takes bread from it to feed three venerable prieſts. No repreſentation ever approached nearer to real life, nor is it poſſible to ſee more expreſſion, than glows upon

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that canvaſs. In the parochial church of Santa Cruz, are two pictures in a ſuperior ſtile, a Stabat Mater doloroſa, which excels in grace and ſoftneſs; and the famous Deſcent from the Croſs, of Pedro de Campaña, which Murillo was accuſtomed daily to admire, and oppoſite to which, by his own directions, he was buried.

This great painter was born A. D. 1618, and died in 1682.

His name ſtands high in Europe; but to form an adequate idea of his excellence, every convent ſhould be viſited, where he depoſited the monuments of his ſuperior ſkill.

In exactneſs of imitation he was equalled; in clara obſcuro, and in reflected lights, he was ſurpaſſed by Velazquez; but not one of all the Spaniſh artiſts went beyond him in tenderneſs and ſoftneſs.

In viſiting the convents, and in viewing their pictures, I had the happineſs to have for my guide D. Franciſco de Bruna, a gentleman diſtinguiſhed for his judgment and his taſte, who had ſtudied the peculiar excellence of every maſter, and was perfectly acquainted with the merit of each work.

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work. He has himſelf a well-diſpoſed collection of the beſt Spaniſh painters, natives of Seville, or educated there; ſuch as, Luis de Vargas, Velazquez, Zurbaran, Valdez, and Murillo, beſide many of the Italian and of the Flemiſh ſchools.

The houſe in which they are depoſited, and in which he lives, was once the reſidence of Mooriſh kings, and, as ſuch, was called *Alcazar*. It is an irregular building, but commodious and pleaſantly ſituated, compriſing many large and well-proportioned rooms. But, as it is ſufficiently deſcribed by travellers, I ſhall not add to their deſcriptions. The garden is ſingular, and, having retained its priſtine form, it is meant to ſerve as a model of the Mooriſh taſte. It is laid out in alleys, with clipped myrtle hedges, and in the middle of the parterres are ſingle trees cut into the form of warriors, with ſpiked clubs. Its principal fruits are oranges and lemons. The whole of this pleaſure-garden, together with the palace and the court-yard, is ſurrounded by a ſtrong rampart, communicating with, but much higher than, the city wall; and beyond this is an orange-grove of conſiderable extent.

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For the winter and for the ſpring, there cannot be a more delightful reſidence.

In ſpeaking of pictures, I have confined myſelf chiefly to Murillo, becauſe of his ſuperior excellence, and becauſe Seville, the place of his nativity, may be conſidered as the principal depoſitory of his work. But although eminent, he by no means ſtands alone. This once famous ſchool, in which the art revived at the beginning of the ſixteenth century, when firſt the treaſures of the weſtern continent were brought to Seville, has produced a multitude of good painters. Among theſe, ſtand foremoſt Pedro de Villegas, the father of this ſchool, Luis de Vargas, Velazquez, Herrera, Roelas, Juan de el Caſtillo, Zurbaran, Franciſco Pacheco, Alonſo Cano, and Valdez, with many others univerſally admired.

The works of theſe great maſters, and of various foreigners, as well as of native Spaniards, are to be met with, not only in the churches, but in the houſes of the principal inhabitants. Among theſe, I viſited the collections of the marquis of Moſcoſo, of D. Pedro de Caſtro, and of D. Donato de Arenzana. In the poſſeſſion of the latter is, perhaps,

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haps, the moſt perfect repreſentation that was ever painted upon canvaſs: it is a lamb, by Zurbaran, with which Velazquez was ſo much ſtruck, that he took the pains to copy it. This I had ſeen in the poſſeſſion of D. Fr. de Bruna; but when I had viewed the original, the copy, much as I had before admired it, ſunk in my eſtimation. D. Donato has, beſide this, a good head by Morales, a Conception by Guido, a moſt incomparable portrait of S. Ignatius Loyola by Careño; the Deſcent from the Croſs by Luis de Vargas, and the Death of Abel by Bobadilla.

Of the convents, that which is upon the moſt extenſive ſcale belongs to the Franciſcans. It contains fifteen cloiſters, many of which are elegant and ſpacious, with apartments for two hundred monks; but at preſent they have only one hundred and forty in their community. Theſe, like all of their order, are fed by charity, and are much favoured by the people. Their annual expenditure is more than four hundred thouſand reals, or in ſterling about four thouſand pounds, amounting to twenty-eight pounds eleven ſhillings and five pence for each. But

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then out of this muſt be deducted the expence of wine, oil, and wax, with the alms diſtributed daily to the poor, which all together is conſiderable.

Not one of the convents is equally frequented as this, more eſpecially during the forty days of Lent. In the principal cloiſter, which is intirely incloſed by a multitude of little chapels, are repreſented, in fourteen pictures, each called a *ſtation*, all the ſufferings of the Redeemer. Theſe are ſo arranged as to mark given diſtances by walking round the cloiſter from the firſt to the ſecond, and ſo in order to the reſt. Over them is mentioned the number of ſteps taken by our Lord between the ſeveral incidents of his paſſion in his way to Calvary, and theſe preciſely are the paces meaſured for the penitents in their progreſs from one ſtation to another. Over one is the following inſcription: "This ſtation "conſiſts of 1,087 ſteps. Here the bleſſed "Redeemer fell a ſecond time under the "weight of his croſs, and here is to be "gained the indulgence of ſeven years and "forty quarantines. Mental prayer, the "Paternoſter and the Ave Maria." This may

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may ſerve as an example for the reſt. I obſerved men, women, and children, rich and poor, going their rounds, ſome ſolitary, others in little groups, repeating aloud their Latin prayers, and kneeling at every ſtation in regular ſucceſſion.

Among all the hoſpitals I was moſt pleaſed with that of *la Sangre*, deſigned for the reception of female patients. The front is elegant, and the ſculpture is much to be admired, more eſpecially the three figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity. The wards are ſpacious, and the whole is remarkable for neatneſs.

Were I inclined to enlarge in my deſcriptions of the public buildings, the Torre del Oro, the Plaza de Toros, the Aqueduct with its four hundred and ten arches, but more eſpecially the Exchange, would afford me ample ſcope. The latter, planned by Herrera (A. D. 1598,) and worthy of its great architect, is a quadrangle of two hundred feet, with a corridor or ſpacious gallery round it, adorned with Ionic columns, and ſupported by an equal number of Doric.

The univerſity was founded in the year 1502, and ſoon roſe into conſideration. The

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name of Arias Montanus, who lies buried at the convent of S. Jago, is alone ſufficient to give celebrity to this ſeminary. His tranſlation of the holy Scriptures will be valued by the learned, as long as the Scriptures themſelves ſhall be the objects of veneration to mankind. The number of under-graduates here is about five hundred.

We meet at Seville with the favourite inſtitutions of Count Campomanes, his academy for the three noble arts of painting, ſculpture, and architecture, and his œconomical ſociety of the friends of their country. Both theſe have been attended with ſucceſs, and have given aſſiſtance not only to the arts, but to agriculture, to manufactures, and to commerce. About two hundred pupils attend the former.

The principal manufacture is ſnuff. To this I paid particular attention. The edifice, elegant and ſimple in its form, is about ſix hundred feet by four hundred and eighty, and not leſs than ſixty feet in height, with four regular fronts, incloſing twenty-eight quadrangles. It coſt thirty-ſeven millions of reals, or about three hundred and ſeventy thouſand pounds. At preſent, no more than

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than ſeventeen hundred workmen are employed, and one hundred horſes or mules; but formerly, three thouſand men were engaged, and near four hundred horſes. This falling off is attributed to miſmanagement, and to the reluctance with which they conſented to deſtroy their damaged tobacco. They have now changed this ſyſtem; and, not many days before my arrival, they condemned to the flames fifteen thouſand pounds weight as unfit for uſe. Yet the high price of the commodity reſtrains the ſale; for, ſince they raiſed the tobacco from thirty to forty reals, that is, from about ſix to eight ſhillings a pound, the demand has gradually leſſened. From the year 1780, the annual ſale has been, of tobacco from Brazil, one million five hundred thouſand pounds, purchaſed from the Portugueſe, at three reals a pound; and of ſnuff, from the produce of their own colonies, one million ſix hundred thouſand pounds, beſide cigars to a very conſiderable amount. They have lying by them, more than five millions of ſnuff unſold; but, as it will not ſuffer by age, they are not uneaſy at this accumulation. Beſide the peculiar kind of ſnuff, with which

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which Spain was accuſtomed to ſupply the market, they have lately introduced the manufacture of rappee. There was a neceſſity for this, in order to put a ſtop to an illicit trade; for whilſt the king was ſelling at ſixty, and ſometimes at fourſcore reals a pound, the ſmugglers ſold the ſame commodity at forty, having themſelves purchaſed it in France, from the farmers of tobacco, at fifteen; but, now that government ſells good rappee at twenty-four reals, the ſmuggler's profit will not compenſate for the riſk. In this branch alone are employed, at preſent, two hundred and twenty people, old and young, with ſixteen mules; but they mean to puſh their trade, when they can get a ſufficient quantity of tobacco, and to engage five times as many hands. The operations are ſo numerous before the rappee is fit for market, that they require a multitude of workmen. Whilſt ſome are employed to unbind the little bundles of tobacco, others are occupied in picking the leafy ſubſtance from the hard ſtems. Some are engaged in dying, others either in ſtraining and preſſing, or in ſpinning the leaf into ropes, and winding it up into rollers to be

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be faggoted and preſſed, till a parcel of eighteen inches long, and two and an half inches in diameter, will weigh ſix pounds. Theſe operations being finiſhed, it is laid in heaps to ſweat nine months; after which, it is cut and ſifted, then grated, once more ſifted, and finally packed up in caniſters for ſale.

All the workmen depoſit their cloaks at the door, and, when they go out, are ſo ſtrictly examined, that they have little chance of being able to conceal tobacco; yet they ſometimes venture to hide it about their perſons. An officer and a guard is always attending to take delinquents into cuſtody; and, that they may prevent reſiſtance, no workman is permitted to enter with a knife. Were it not for this precaution, the conſequence of a detection might be fatal.

The whole buſineſs is conducted by a director, with a ſalary of forty thouſand reals a year, and fifty-four ſuperior officers, aſſiſted by as many ſubordinate to them.

For grinding their ſnuff, they have forty mills, each conſiſting of a ſtone-roller, moved by a large horſe, or mule, with the traces

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traces faſtened to a beam of eight feet in length, in the angle of forty-five degrees, conſequently loſing preciſely half his force. I endeavoured to explain this to the officer who conducted me through the works, but he could not comprehend it. He is brother to the unfortunate young woman, who, in the year 1774, at S. Lucar, bled before the altar, a victim to the unhallowed paſſion, with which her beauty had inſpired the prieſt. This wretch, whilſt receiving her confeſſions, had declared himſelf her lover; but, at laſt, enraged at the obſtinate reſiſtance of a virtuous mind, he turned his back upon the altar, where he had been partaking of the conſecrated bread, and ſtabbed her, in the preſence of her mother. For this moſt atrocious of all crimes, he was—ſhocking to relate!—ſuffered to live in baniſhment at Porto Rico.

The ſilk manufacture was formerly conſiderable in Seville. When Ferdinand III. ſurnamed *el Santo*, (in the year 1248) entered the city, he found, as it is ſaid, ſixteen thouſand looms, which employed a hundred and thirty thouſand perſons; and ſuch was the population of the city, that the Moors,

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Moors, who left it when it was ſurrendered to the Chriſtians, were four hundred thouſand, beſide multitudes who died during a ſixteen months ſiege, and many who remained after their fellow citizens were gone.

Alfonzo, ſurnamed el Sabio, ſeeing the importance of this manufacture, gave it every poſſible encouragement; and, trade being chiefly confined to Seville, on the firſt diſcovery of America; (A. D. 1519,) they once more reckoned ſixteen thouſand looms; but the millones, impoſed at the latter end of the reign of Philip II. to defray the expence of his wars, gave a ſhock to commerce, and the frequent alteration in the relative value of their money, with the expulſion of the Moors, almoſt ruined this once wealthy city. Added to this, in the year 1649 more than two hundred thouſand perſons died of an epidemical diſeaſe in Spain. In conſequence of theſe misfortunes, (A. D. 1655,) there remained only ſixty looms in Seville. After the acceſſion of a new family, the weavers amounted (A. D. 1713,) to four hundred and five: but in the year 1721, the farmers of the tax

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tax on ſilk having collected with rigour the fourteen per cent. for the alcavala and cientos, they not only ruined the manufacture, but reduced the revenue from eight hundred thouſand reals to leſs than ſixteen thouſand. Philip, however, giving attention to this important buſineſs, trade revived, and (A. D. 1732) the looms amounted to one thouſand. War with England reduced them ſuddenly, and A. D. 1739 they were only a hundred and forty. Since the remonſtrances of Bernardo de Ulloa, (A. D. 1740) the taxes have no longer been left to the rapacity of farmers, the alcavala has been taken off; and, by the laſt account, the looms amounted to four hundred and ſixty-two for wide ſilks, with one thouſand eight hundred and fifty-ſix for other purpoſes. Each loom is allowed annually, if for wide work, a hundred pounds of ſilk duty free; if for narrow, they receive fourſcore.

Whenever the navigation of the river ſhall be reſtored to the condition, in which it was when Magellan with five ſhips ſailed from hence for thoſe ſtraits, which have been called by his name; and when free-

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dom, civil and religious, ſhall once more lift up her head in Spain; new channels will be opened for reviving commerce, and Seville will be reſtored to her ancient ſplendor.

The art of tanning is perhaps no where ſo ill conducted as in Spain; in no part of which can good leather be procured, unleſs it come from England. Senſible of this, the miniſter of finance became anxious to induce ſome ſtranger, ſkilful in the buſineſs, to take up his reſidence in Spain. Whilſt he had this idea in his mind, chance threw in his way a tradeſman travelling to receive orders, and to get in debts for himſelf and partners, who, as leather-cutters, have a ſhop on Snow-hill, in London. It immediately occurred to the miniſter, that he had found his man; and therefore, ſending for him, without loſs of time, he invited him to ſettle as a currier and a tanner. This gentleman, conſcious to himſelf that he was not properly qualified to conduct a buſineſs, to which he had not been bred, withſtood his ſolicitations, and refuſed the moſt advantageous terms: but at length, after conſidering the matter in every point

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of view, he accepted the offer, and conſented to eſtabliſh himſelf at Seville. I viſited his tan-yard, and found him happy in the protection he enjoys. The miniſter has given him the convent of the Jeſuits, and about ſeven acres of good land, rent free, with the pre-emption of hides from Buenos Ayres, and of all ſkins from the Spaniſh ſettlements; beſide the privilege of cutting down, for bark, all the trees growing, either in the royal foreſts, or on the lands of private perſons, within a given diſtance of the city. He uſes the inner bark taken from the cork-tree, with myrtle leaves, which ſerve his purpoſe tolerably well; yet are by no means equal in ſtrength to the bark of oak. He ſays, that the Spaniards underſtand the art of tanning; but that they want ſpirit, induſtry, and capital for ſuch extenſive undertakings; and I am inclined to think, that his obſervation is well founded. Finding him a man of activity, with a command of money, the miniſter has given him a contract to furniſh boots and belts for the cavalry, and a variety of other articles, ſuch as ſpurs and buckles, not connected with his peculiar

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trade. He is certainly a treaſure to the Spaniards, both for application and for weight of capital, and, I have no doubt, will puſh this new eſtabliſhment as far as it can go, provided government ſhall continue to protect him.

Having been introduced to D. Juan Alvarez, the intendant of the *mint*, I viſited his office, in which at preſent a few workmen find occaſional employment; whereas formerly one hundred and eighty were conſtantly engaged. They have here the ſame ſlow proceſs as at London and in Paris, in conſequence of which their coinage is expenſive; whilſt in Birmingham the operation, by a new invention, is expedited, and performed at a trifling expence.

In traverſing the ſtreets, I was ſtruck with the multitude of beggars clothed in rags; and was at firſt inclined to attribute this to the decay of trade; but, upon examination, I found a more abiding cauſe in the diſtribution of alms at the archbiſhop's palace, and at the gates of twenty convents, daily, and without diſtinction, to all who make application for relief. Such miſplaced benevolence is a bar to induſtry, and

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multiplies the objects of diſtreſs, whoſe numbers bear exact proportion to the proviſion made for their ſupport. To have this principle rightly underſtood is of ſuch importance, that I can never let one opportunity eſcape of bringing it into view.

My time paſſed away pleaſantly at Seville. The mornings I employed in viewing whatever was moſt worthy of attention in the city, or in little excurſions to the country. At noon I paid my reſpects to the good archbiſhop, dined and took the Sieſta at his palace; after which I ſometimes went out in the carriage with his grace, at other times joined the company in the Alameda, or public walk; and cloſed the day either with the archbiſhop, or in the family of ſome cheerful friend. The ſeaſon of Lent is not favourable to gaiety, becauſe it does not admit of the uſual diverſions; yet I had always reaſon to be ſatisfied with my evening's entertainment. The archbiſhop received only gentlemen for converſation. In other houſes they have generally ſome round game at cards; but the family, in which I delighted moſt, was that of a canon, for whoſe ſiſter I had the

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the honour to be conſulted as a phyſician. The caſe was highly intereſting; an epilepſy, ariſing from extreme ſenſibility; and I pleaſed myſelf with the idea, that I was uſeful to her. My recompence was to enjoy her converſation, and to hear her ſing.

In one of my morning viſits at the archbiſhop's palace, I had the ſatisfaction of being preſent at an oppoſition, or diſputation, between the candidates for a vacant benefice; a ſcene admirably deſcribed, by the author of Gil Blas. Vehemence, on ſuch an occaſion, is not only ſanctioned by cuſtom, but is certainly excuſable, in men who are contending, not merely for fame, but bread. The judges are the dioceſan, aſſiſted by ſix of the chapter; and the examinations are in the ſciences, ethics, divinity, and canon law. Many eccleſiaſtical preferments are diſpoſed of in this way. Thus in every cathedral four canons are choſen by oppoſition, and are ſaid to be *de merito*; theſe are, the penitentiary, for receiving the confeſſions of the chapter; the preacher; the profeſſor of theology; and the civilian, who conducts their law-ſuits. The reſt are given through favour, either

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by the dioceſan, the chapter, or the king, according to the month in which the vacancy happens.

When a candidate makes application to the great, either for protection in general, or upon a ſpecial occaſion for preferment, he preſents a printed copy of his memorial, ſtiled "*Relacion de los Meritos, titulos, grados y exercicios, literarios de A. B.*" of which the original is lodged with the ſecretary of ſtate, and contains his name; the place of his nativity; his rank; his age; the univerſity, in which he ſtudied, with the degrees he has taken; his acquirements; his conduct in his profeſſion, as a prieſt, as a preacher, and as a confeſſor; ſetting forth his regularity, his zeal, and his ſucceſs, with his peculiar privileges, ſuch as that he is permitted to read the prohibited books, and to confeſs both ſexes; and ſtating, finally, that he is every way qualified to receive any eccleſiaſtical preferment to which he may be preſented.

One day, when I was at the archbiſhop's palace, the old librarian took me aſide, and requeſted me to make application for him to obtain a living then vacant, and in the gift of the crown, deſiring me to write immediately

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ately to count Florida Blanca, and to incloſe his *Relacion de meritos*. This, I remember, ſtated, in the liſt of his acquirements, that he had learnt Hebrew, that he had been examined in the verbs, but that he had never been rich enough to purchaſe a lexicon. I made the application through our miniſter, and obtained the promiſe of a living for him; but not that for which he then ſolicited.

Not far from the city is a building, now verging to decay, near to which I often paſſed, without aſking for what it was deſigned; but, one evening, walking with the gentleman to whom I had been recommended by count Florida Blanca, ſtruck with its form, I deſired him to tell me what purpoſe it had ſerved. At firſt he ſeemed to pay no attention; but, upon my repeating the queſtion, I received an evaſive anſwer, ſuch as tended only to awaken my curioſity, and to make me more urgent with him for information. At laſt he told me, that this ſtrange kind of edifice is called *el Quemadero*; but begged that I would never diſcloſe to any one, from whom I had received my information. The name was ſufficient, together with the form, without further

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inquiries, to explain the horrid uſe to which it had been too often put. I urged him no further on the ſubject; and, without loſs of time, haſtened from a ſpot which my imagination painted all in flames. The next day, however, I returned with one of the judges, who, as ſuch, could venture to be more communicative. In anſwer to my queſtions, he informed me, that the *Quemadero*, ſo called from the verb *quemar*, to burn, ſerved the purpoſe of a ſcaffold for burning heretics; and that, about four years before, a woman had ſuffered on it, by a ſentence of the inquiſition, to which he had given his ſanction. From him, and from others, I obtained the following particulars. This woman was a *beata*, profeſſing one of the three vows impoſed on nuns, of which, poverty and obedience are the regular companions; yet that vow ſhe broke. In the accuſation ſhe was charged with having corrupted her confeſſor; who, poor man! as the leaſt culpable of the two, was merely baniſhed. Had this been her ſole offence, it had been puniſhed with leſs diſtinguiſhed ſeverity; but, not ſatisfied with having been guilty of ſacrilege in one inſtance,

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inſtance, ſhe went on corrupting the prieſthood; and, either from paſſion or from vanity, extended daily, over the ſervants of the altar, the dominion of her charms; till, either by pride, or by remorſe of conſcience, ſhe loſt her underſtanding, and fooliſhly imagined that ſhe was acting under a divine authority. Some ſay, that ſhe vindicated her conduct upon the principle, that both parties were free from obligation; but others, and more juſtly, ſay, that ſhe pretended to have ſeen an angel. This being a crime within the cognizance of the inquiſitors, ſhe was brought to trial, was convicted, and was burnt.

Excited by this narration, I had the curioſity to viſit the court of the inquiſition. It was formerly a convent of the Jeſuits, and is ſo light and elegant, that I could ſcarcely conceive it to contain the dreadful tribunal and gloomy dungeons. I went into the chapel, and the hall of judgment, and ventured to aſk ſome queſtions; but could obtain no anſwer: ſilence and ſolitude ſeemed to have eſtabliſhed their dominion there.

The inquiſition is certainly leſs formidable now, ſince light is every where diffuſed,

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than it was in darker ages, when ſuperſtition reigned; and the inquiſitors of the preſent day, if not more humane, are at leaſt more humble, than their predeceſſors in remoter periods. Yet we muſt confeſs, that, whilſt their authority remains, it will be ever ſubject to abuſe. Every one knows the hiſtory and the fate of Don Pablo Olavidé. The real cauſe of his diſgrace, was neither his impiety nor his immorality, but his hatred of the monks; who, in return, became his implacable enemies, and never ceaſed to perſecute him, till they had baniſhed him from Spain. They never could forget, that in the Sierra Morena he had built his houſe preciſely on the ſpot where had ſtood a convent, a convent which ſerved as an aſylum for the robbers, with whom the venerable fathers had been accuſtomed to divide their plunder. Nor could they forgive his having made it a fundamental law of his new ſettlements, that they ſhould have no monks. Unfortunately, he had married a rich woman, who was neither young nor handſome, and, by her means, the monks became acquainted with ſuch circumſtances as might have otherwiſe

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otherwiſe eſcaped them, and were enabled to treaſure up againſt him every unguarded expreſſion, which at any time eſcaped his lips. This valuable citizen was taken out of his bed, the 14th of November, 1776, and, after being ſhut up twelve months in the priſon of the inquiſition, his ſentence was publicly read; all his effects were confiſcated for the uſe of the inquiſitors his judges, and he was condemned to eight years confinement in a convent.

It muſt be confeſſed, that in the perſon of Olavidé, the inquiſitors flew at noble game; but, a few years after this, they reſembled the eagle, when ſhe ſtoops to feed on carrion. The hiſtory of this tranſaction is worthy to be recorded. I ſhall, therefore, give it from the relation of one who was preſent at the Auto de Fé, celebrated in the conventual church of S. Domingo, in Madrid, the 9th of May, 1784, when the whole proceſs was publicly read.

The principal actor in this farce was Ignacio Rodriguez, a beggar. The firſt profeſſion of this man was arms; but of his conduct in that line little has tranſpired.

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pired. It is certain, that he was with count O'Reilly in the unfortunate expedition againſt Algiers, where he was wounded in the leg. In conſequence of this he was diſcharged as an invalid, and had an offer of the uſual penſion; but he choſe rather to caſt himſelf on the public, and to enjoy his liberty, than to be loſt in obſcurity with his companions. For this purpoſe, he was careful to keep his wound from healing; and, ſuch was his addreſs, that he procured a comfortable living, or rather, as it appeared, fared ſumptuouſly every day.

After ſome years, he was ſo unfortunate as to attract the attention of D. Bernardo Cantero, the intendant general of the police, who, ſeeing him from day to day, inquired for what reaſon he kept his wound open, and ordered him to have it healed. Rodriguez, not knowing to whom he ſpoke, replied with inſolence, "I aſk alms, and not advice." This ill-timed anſwer proved his ruin.

The intendant, ſtruck with his appearance, and offended with his inſolence, watched him, and having obſerved ſomething uncommon in a long converſation between

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between him and a female, called Juliana Lopez, cauſed her to be followed, and arreſted. This woman, although artful, being taken by ſurpriſe, was confuſed, and ſoon confeſſed, that the paper ſhe had delivered to the beggar contained ſome materials for making love powder. On this evidence Rodriguez was taken into cuſtody, with a female named Angela Barrios, who, being a woman of inferior talents, acted under them, and was employed only in commiſſions of no great importance. All three being committed to the common jail, were frequently queſtioned, and the reſult of their examination was laid before the king, who, by the advice of his confeſſor, referred the matter to the inquiſitors. In conſequence of this the priſoners were removed, and confined in the priſon of the inquiſition.

No tribunal has ſuch advantages in tracing out the truth, nor can any other inveſtigate a dark tranſaction with ſuch a certainty of ſucceſs as this court. Unfettered by forms, and not limited for time, they are at liberty to bring whom they pleaſe before them, to take them from their beds in the

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the middle of the night, to examine them by ſurpriſe, to terrify their imaginations, to torment their bodies, to ſtretch them on the rack, and to croſs examine them at diſtant periods. With theſe advantages, the impoſtor was made to confeſs the whole of his practices, with all the moſt minute particulars, and the names of the parties to whom he had ſold his powder. He explained, in his confeſſion, the materials of which he had compoſed it; but theſe, to a modeſt ear, ſhould never have been mentioned; and he acknowledged, that every female, after taking it, had been obliged to grant him whatever he choſe to aſk, without which the charm was to have no effect. Whenever he adminiſtered it, he muttered ſome necromantic formula, that he might give an air of myſtery to the tranſaction, and inſpire the mind with confidence in its ſucceſs.

Juliana Lopez, his aſſociate, ſerved him as an emiſſary and a panegyriſt; and that ſhe might in all reſpects lend herſelf to his views and to his wiſhes, ſhe hired a convenient garden, to which he might retire at all ſeaſons, whenever it ſuited his convenience.

Angela

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Angela Barrios acted as a ſervant to the others, and being of a weak underſtanding, was never admitted to their confidence. Fidelity and ſilence on her part were ſometimes however requiſite, and in theſe ſhe never failed.

The proceſs, according to cuſtom, contained the moſt minute particulars. Their crimes were proved by a multitude of teſtimonies, and their guilt was confirmed by their own confeſſions. From theſe it appeared, that his powder was adminiſtered to perſons of all ranks; and one of the inquiſitors has ſince informed me, that many ladies of high faſhion in Madrid were duped by him, although out of tenderneſs their names had been concealed.

When the proceſs was gone through, the judges reſolved to celebrate an Auto de Fé publicly in the church of the Padres del Salvador, but the king would not conſent, that the nuns of S. Domingo ſhould loſe their privilege of having the Auto in their church. The inquiſitors gave way, but ſent a requeſt, that the nuns might not be admitted to the grate, leſt their ears ſhould be offended, and the purity of their imagina-

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imaginations ſhould be defiled. This meſſage had the effect, which might have been expected. Their curioſity was the more excited, and of all the nuns four only were abſent from the grate.

On the day appointed, at ſix in the morning, the people began to aſſemble in the ſtreet of the inquiſition, and the troops took their ſtation to preſerve good order. About eight the beggar left his dungeon, leaning on his crutches, and attended by a capuchin friar of no reſpectable appearance, named Father Cardenas. As ſoon as he appeared in court, he fell upon his knees before one of the inquiſitors, who with the greateſt mildneſs and gentleneſs addreſſed him thus: "My ſon, you are going to "hear the relation of your crimes, and the "ſentence pronounced for the expiation "of your guilt. Our lenity is great, be-"cauſe our holy tribunal, always moſt in-"dulgent, ſeeks rather to reform than "puniſh. Let your ſorrow flow from "your conſciouſneſs of guilt, and not from "a ſenſe of the diſgrace you ſuffer."

This exhortation ended, which is the ſame, even when the criminal is committed to

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to the flames, they proceeded to throw over the ſhoulders of the beggar his ſan benito, or more properly his *ſaco bendito*, being the ſackcloth with S. Andrew's croſs, anciently worn by penitents. On his head they placed the cap with ſerpents, lizards, and blackbeetles, a green candle in his hand, and round his neck a halter. To Juliana Lopez the ſame ſpeech was made, and when ſhe had been clothed in ſimilar attire, ſhe ſtood, although not with equal confidence, near to her companion.

Laſt of all came forth Angela Barrios, who, trembling and bathed in tears, fell down upon her knees, and begged the inquiſitors to ſpare her life. She was anſwered, that the holy tribunal was not accuſtomed to put any one to death; that they would do her no harm; and that as her offence was not equal to that of her companions, they had not even provided for her a ſan benito, the diſgraceful badge, by which all, who have worn it, are rendered, with their families, infamous for ever.

When every thing was thus arranged, the proceſſion began to move. In front marched ſoldiers to clear the way; then appeared

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peared the ſtandard of the holy office, ſupported by alguazils, and followed by familiars, with the learned doctors of the inquiſition; next advanced the beggar, ſupported by his crutches, and attended by two ſecretaries, who carried the whole proceſs in a box lined with velvet; and the little capuchin, as confeſſor, with the Marquis of Cogolludo, ſon to the Duke of Medina Cœli, of the blood royal, and the firſt nobleman in Spain, as alguazil mayor, brought up the rear.

No ſooner had the pageant entered the church than maſs began; after which they read the proceſs in the hearing of the whole aſſembly, which conſiſted of the principal nobility, with all the ladies of the court, who had been invited by la Marqueſa de Cogolludo, and ſat with her on a ſtage raiſed for this occaſion.

The ſecretaries were frequently interrupted in reading by loud burſts of laughter, in which the beggar joined. The mirth was, however, in ſome breaſts, attended with a degree of trepidation, when in the proceſs circumſtances were related, in which ladies who were preſent, had been concerned,

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concerned, and who expected every moment to be named.

After the whole of the proceſs had been read, the chief inquiſitor rang a little bell, and the priſoners drew nigh to hear their ſentence. That of Ignacio Rodriguez was, to be whipped through the ſtreets of Madrid, to be inſtructed and fortified in the myſteries of the catholic faith by a ſpiritual guide appointed by the court, with whom he was to go through holy exerciſes for one month, faſting on the Fridays on bread and water; and at the end of this period he was to make a general confeſſion. He was to be five years ſhut up in the penitentiary houſe of Toledo, and afterwards to be baniſhed for ever from Madrid and from the royal manſions, with an obligation to inform the holy office wherever he ſhould happen to reſide. The ſentence of the other was not ſo ſevere.

The whole ceremony ended about three in the afternoon.

The day following, the beggar, naked down to his waiſt, was mounted on an aſs, attended by the Marquis of Cogolludo. Thus accompanied, the impoſtor was con-

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ducted through the ſtreets, but without receiving any ſtripes; and as he proceeded, he was frequently refreſhed by his friends with biſcuits and wine; whilſt many, who knew not the nature of his offence, thinking him a heretic, cried out, *viva la Virgen, viva Maria puriſſima*, to which he replied, *por mi que viva*.

This ceremony ended, the Marchioneſs of Cogolludo gave a grand entertainment to the judges and officers of the inquiſition.

Had it been the intention of the king to make the inquiſition, preparatory to its abolition, contemptible in the eyes of the whole nation, he could not have taken any ſtep more effectual for the purpoſe, than he did, when he called upon that tribunal to examine into offences, which ſhould have been infinitely below its notice, and to appear in the proceſſion with a wretch, who ſhould have been puniſhed in ſecret by the vileſt miniſter of juſtice.

Others have given the hiſtory of this execrable tribunal, both as to its origin and progreſs, together with the form of its proceedings, and cruel treatment of its priſoners.

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ſoners. Upon theſe particulars I ſhall be ſilent; but I muſt obſerve that the original inquiſition, armed with dreadful powers, under the appellation of the Spiritual Court, ſtill exiſts in England; where, as in Spain, the poor ſuffer moſt by the abuſe of its authority. The ſerpent with us appears to have loſt its venom: it is torpid, but not dead, and ſhould, at any future period, our government be changed; it may revive, and be as deſtructive to our children as it has already been to our progenitors.

In the vicinity of Seville is a curious monument of antiquity, the amphitheatre of Italica, highly worthy the attention of all, who are fond of ſuch remains, but to me they were little intereſting. It is an oval of two hundred and ninety-one feet by two hundred and four. If we may judge of Italica by the extent of its ruins, it was a conſiderable city, and although ſo little now is to be ſeen above the ſurface of the ſoil, yet we know that formerly it was a biſhop's ſee, and prior to that period, it gave birth to Trajan, to Adrian, and to Theodoſius.

The country round the city to a conſi-

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derable diſtance lies ſo low, that it is frequently overflowed, and upon ſome occaſions the water has been eight feet high, even in their habitations. The ſoil is rich, and being at the ſame time very deep, its fertility is inexhauſtible. The produce is corn, leguminous plants, hemp, flax, lemons, oranges and liquorice. The quantity of this exported from Spain is ſaid to be annually not leſs than four thouſand quintals, or nearly two hundred tons, a conſiderable part of which is ſuppoſed to be purchaſed by the porter-brewers in London. Could they be prevailed upon to omit the cocculus indicus, they might be permitted to uſe the liquorice without reſtraint.

I had the curioſity to make inquiries at the cuſtom-houſe in London, where I found that the principal marts for this produce were formally Italy and French Flanders, but that of late the importation from Spain has rapidly increaſed, and that from being only two tons ſeventeen hundred weight three quarters and ſixteen pounds, in the year 1785, it became fifty-eight tons three hundred weight one quarter and four-

teen

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teen pounds, in the year 1788. The whole quantity imported, I found to be as follows:

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	lb.
1785, into London and the out-ports ——	109	14	3	18
1786, ditto ——	150	2	3	14
1787, ditto ——	128	19	0	16
1788, ditto ——	183	1	0	17

In this period the proportion of the out-ports has increaſed from twenty-four tons eleven hundred weight two quarters and twenty-five pounds, to fifty-five tons fourteen hundred weight two quarters and fifteen pounds. From which circumſtance we may collect, that London has taught the country brewers the uſe of this innocent and pleaſant drug in making porter.

In conſequence of vapours and miaſmata, occaſioned by ſtagnant water, and by frequent floods, the inhabitants of Seville and its neighbourhood are ſubject to tertians, to putrid fevers, and to hiſterical diſorders. The pre-diſpoſition to ſuch diſeaſes may be likewiſe ſought for in the quantity of cucumbers and melons conſumed by them all the year, in conſequence of which they are

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likewiſe infeſted with worms, accompanied with epilepſies, eſpecially in the more youthful ſubjects. This connection I have frequently had occaſion to obſerve; and, from this circumſtance, I comprehend the principle on which an able phyſician is mentioned, in the *London Practice of Phyſic*, to have ordered the powder of tin, in a caſe of epilepſy. Yet, I muſt acknowledge a ſuſpicion, that the compiler of that valuable work, who appears to have been ſome old apothecary in extenſive practice, did not diſcover, at the time when he made a memorandum of the caſe, that the phyſician was then preſcribing to the occaſional cauſe, and not to the diſeaſe. The ſkill of a practitioner is diſcerned, not merely by his readineſs in diſtinguiſhing diſeaſes, but by his attention to their pre-diſpoſing cauſes. The empyric, often ſatisfied with preſcribing to the ſymptom, is liable to be fatally miſtaken in his diſtinctions, and never attempts to inveſtigate the cauſe. Hence it is, that the publication of formulæ, ſuch as thoſe to which I have referred, will never be uſeful to him, or indeed to any one, who has not been regularly

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bred to the profeſſion. The ſcience of phyſic is not ſo eaſily acquired as ſome have imagined, and have been taught to think by phyſicians, who, with the appearance of diſintereſtedneſs and candour, have publiſhed their ſyſtems of domeſtic medicine. To diſtinguiſh diſeaſes, and to inveſtigate their cauſe, requires much knowledge, deep reflection, and a natural ſagacity, to be improved by reading, and by extenſive practice. Even the moſt ſkilful and attentive are ſometimes miſtaken; and at this we ſhall not be ſurpriſed, if we conſider the vaſt variety of diſeaſes, to which the human frame is ſubject. The bare inſpection of any ſyſtem of noſology will be ſufficient to convince a reaſonable man that the ſcience is abſtruſe. In the *Noſologia Methodica* of Sauvage, we find ten claſſes, forty-three orders, and more than three hundred genera, in many of which are from ten to twenty ſpecies, each diſtinguiſhed from the other, and denominated by its occaſional cauſe. Dr. Cullen has indeed reduced the number both of genera and ſpecies, by conſidering many of them as ſymptomatic of other diſeaſes, and not as idiopa-

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thic; yet even this diſtinction ſhews more clearly the abſtruſeneſs of the ſcience, and how liable they muſt be, who are not perfectly inſtructed, to make miſtakes. I have dwelt upon this ſubject, from a firm perſuaſion, that "ſyſtems of domeſtic medicine" have done much miſchief to mankind, and that the moſt dangerous idea, which can be impreſſed upon the mind is, that "every man may be his own phyſician." In a country like Spain, a perſon not bred to the profeſſion may be reduced to the neceſſity of preſcribing to his neighbours; but in England, this practice, unleſs in the cleareſt caſes, is much to be condemned.

I have mentioned the diſeaſes incident to the inhabitants of Seville, ariſing from humidity; but others there are which originate in heat. Whenever they have the Solano wind, that is, whenever the wind blows from Africa, they become liable to pleuriſies; but what is chiefly complained of, both by phyſicians and by magiſtrates, is an irritability of nerves, influencing the morals in a variety of ways.

Before I quitted Seville, according to my uſual practice, I enquired into the price of labour

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labour and proviſions. They are as follow:

Day labourers, four reals and an half, or about $10\frac{3}{4}d.$

Carpenters, from ſeven to eleven reals a day.

Joiners, if good workmen, twenty-four reals, or $4s.\ 9d.$

Weavers, with diligence, will earn fifteen reals, or $3s.$

Bread, from ſixteen to twenty-eight quartos, or $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $7\frac{7}{8}d.$ for three pounds of ſixteen ounces.

Beef, thirty quartos for thirty-two ounces, or about $4\frac{1}{4}d.$ a pound of ſixteen ounces.

Mutton, thirty-eight quartos ditto, or $5\frac{1}{32}d.$ ditto.

Kid, twenty-four quartos ditto, or $3\frac{3}{8}d.$ ditto.

Pork, thirty-ſix to forty-two quartos ditto, or $5\frac{1}{16}d.$ to $5\frac{29}{32}d.$ ditto.

A. D. 1731, the whole conſumption of fleſh in Seville was one million ſeven hundred ninety-two thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-nine pounds; of which the eccleſiaſtics had eight hundred eleven thouſand

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ſand and ninety-one pounds, free from taxes; the pounds being here of thirty-two ounces, or two pounds each avoirdupois.

The price of wheat, at different periods, and at different ſeaſons of the year, has been ſo remarkable, that I ſhall ſubjoin a table.

Price of the Fanega of Wheat at Seville.

A. D.	Months.	Reals.	A. D.	Months.	Reals.
1652.	April	80 to 120	1752.	April	38.
	July	42 to 45		July	25 to 33
1655.	April	14 to 20	1755.	April	16 to 22
	July	13 to 17		July	13 to 18
1657.	April	11 to 18	1757.	April	25 to 29
	July	16 to 23		July	18 to 27
1660.	April	45 to 53	1760.	April	29 to 36
	July	22 to 27		July	30 to 37
1661.	April	17 to 22	1761.	April	30 to 37
	July	21 to 28		July	24 to 32

If we reckon the ſanega at one hundred and nine pounds and an half, and the buſhel at ſeventy, then the higheſt price, A. D. 1652, will be equal to 15*s.* 3½*d.* the buſhel, and the loweſt price, A. D. 1657, to 1*s.* 4½*d.*

In

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In the correſponding periods, as taken from Smith's Wealth of Nations, the higheſt price is 7*s*. 6*d*. and the loweſt 3*s*. 9*d*. Had the commerce of corn been unreſtained, the price in Spain could never have varied in ſuch wide extremes, to the deſtruction of manufactures.

When I had ſatisfied my curioſity at Seville, and had reſolved next to viſit Cadiz, I ſent and hired the cabin of a paſſage-boat, which was to leave the city in the evening, and falling down the Guadalquivir, was to arrive in about ſix and thirty hours at S. Lucar.

The common price for every paſſenger is eight reals, or about 1*s*. 7*d*. but for the whole cabin I paid twenty reals, or a hard dollar, being a ſmall fraction under four ſhillings ſterling. In this I had no great bargain, becauſe my apartment was not more than ſix feet by five, and about three feet high. My only comfort was, that I could ſtretch myſelf at night upon a bear ſkin, and ſaw myſelf by day ſeparated from a multitude, ſome of whom were not remarkable for cleanlineſs.

Among the rabble, I obſerved a young Franciſcan

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Franciſcan friar, and a genteel French merchant, who by no means ſeemed to be ſatisfied with their ſituation. At the cloſing of the day, the whole aſſembly joined in the Ave Maria, our young friar taking the lead, and diſtinguiſhing himſelf by the ſtrength and melody of his voice; after which he entertained the company with ſome good *ſequidillas*, *tiranas*, and other Spaniſh ſongs. I was ſo well ſatisfied with his voice and manner, that in the morning I invited him to my cabin, and was delighted to find in him a pleaſant and converſable companion.

The wind was favourable, the ſky was clear, and the courſe being nearly in one ſtraight line, little attention was required to the helm. In ſuch circumſtances it was not to be wondered at, that our Palinurus, who had been watching all the night, ſhould be inclined to nod by day. But whilſt ſleep had taken poſſeſſion of his eye-lids, his attention ſeemed to be awake, for when at any time, by the ſhifting of the wind, either the direction or degree of preſſure of the helm was varied, he inſtantly moved his hand, and even before he opened his eyes,

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he put the veſſel right. Thus it is reſpecting ſounds. No noiſe, however violent, rouſes thoſe who are accuſtomed to hear it; but, if it be unuſual, or if it be ſuch as would call them to action when awake, although moderate, it makes them ſtart: thus it ſeems as if the ſoul was capable of exerciſing judgment during ſleep.

The country all the way, for the ſpace of twenty leagues between Seville and S. Lucar, is flat, the ſoil is deep, and the paſtures are covered with a perpetual verdure.

In this little voyage I was ſo well pleaſed with my young friar, that I bore his expences, agreed to take him for my companion and my guide as far as Cadiz; and, ſuch was the confidence I repoſed in him, that when we had landed on the beach, and taken horſes to S. Lucar, I committed my baggage to his care, whilſt I haſtened to pay my compliments to our conſul; but, to my aſtoniſhment, on my return, I found that I had been cheriſhing a thief. He would have made an apology; but, as I wanted no explanation, when I had ocular demonſtration, I took my leave, without reproaching

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reproaching his ingratitude; and hiring horſes, I made the beſt of my way towards Cadiz.

The country is hilly, the ſoil at a lower level, and near the ſea, is ſand; but all the intermediate ſpace is a ſtiff clay, and the road is abominably bad. The diſtance is ſix leagues.

About mid-way I counted twenty teams of oxen tilling one piece of land. The plough is by no means ſuited to the ſoil, having no fin to the ſhare, no coulter, nor any mould-board; but, inſtead of the latter, two wooden pins. This, in light ſand, may anſwer very well, but is certainly little calculated to ſubdue a ſtubborn clay. The higheſt of the hills, expoſed to the meridian ſun, have vines, and the ſcene is often beautifully varied by extenſive plantations of the olive.

As ſoon as I arrived at Puerto de Santa *Maria*, I enquired for the paſſage-boat to Cadiz. They informed me at the poſada, that no wherry would paſs that day. I, however, preſſed forward to the beach, where I was ſoon ſurrounded by a number of watermen, who all aſſured me, that I

was

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was come too late for the common paſſage-boat, but that for two hard dollars I might have a veſſel to myſelf. Unwilling to be detained all day, I agreed, and was conducted to a boat half filled with paſſengers, and, after waiting near an hour for the full complement, we ſet ſail. As the wind was fair, we ſoon made our paſſage; and, on quitting the boat, I had the mortification to ſee each perſon pay two reals, or four pence halfpenny, inſtead of two hard dollars, or eight ſhillings; but it was to no purpoſe to complain.

CADIZ.

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C A D I Z.

THE city of Cadiz occupies a promontory at the extremity of a peninſula, and is joined to the iſle of Leon only by a cauſeway. It is waſhed to the eaſtward by the gentle waves of a well protected road; but, to the weſtward, it is open and expoſed to the fury of the ocean.

The ſtreets are narrow, yet well paved and clean. The moſt beautiful part of the city looks towards the *Puerto de Santa Maria*, where the houſes are lofty, built of white free-ſtone, and ornamented with painted balconies. They have in front a wide parade, well gravelled, planted with trees, and communicating with the ſea-road, where the merchantmen and ſhips of war find ſhelter.

Two

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Two conſiderable ſquares, one for the market, the other called *Plaza de San Antonio*, with the *Calle Ancha* joining to it by way of mall, contribute both to beauty and to health; and the whole city being nearly ſurrounded by a rampart, this forms an elevated, airy, and delightful walk, much frequented in the evenings.

The moſt advantageous view of Cadiz and its environs may be had from the ſignal tower: from whence you look immediately down upon the houſes, whoſe flat roofs, covered with a white cement, have a ſingular yet moſt pleaſing appearance. To the weſtward, you command the ocean, with numerous veſſels, ſome ſtretching away, others entering the harbour; and, on the land ſide, you diſcover the four intereſting ſea-port towns of Rota, Santa Maria, Port Royal, and Caraca, with the iſle of Leon, and the connecting cauſeway, whilſt a rich country, hanging towards the ſetting ſun, bounds the diſtant proſpect.

They reckon now in Cadiz, not more than ſixty-five thouſand nine hundred and eighty-ſeven ſouls; but, about ten years ſince, it is ſaid to have contained eighty-

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five thouſand, beſide about twenty thouſand people who entered daily from the ſea, and from the adjacent country.

For their pavements, for the cleanlineſs of their ſtreets, for a well regulated police, for ſome of their beſt edifices, and for many wiſe inſtitutions, they have been indebted to their late governor, Count O'Reilly. Previous to his appointment, this city was remarkable for filth and naſtineſs; and from the miſtaken clemency of Bucarelli, the former governor, robberies were frequently committed, murders were not uncommon, and ſuch was the inſolence of thieves, that they gave public warning to the inhabitants, not to make a noiſe when they ſhould be ſtopped.

The moſt diſtinguiſhed buildings are the two cathedrals, one ancient, the other not yet finiſhed. The former is chiefly remarkable for ſome good pictures, and for its treaſures, conſiſting of jems, ſilver candleſticks and lamps, both numerous and bulky; three cuſtodias, one of which, conſtructed of the fineſt ſilver, weighs fifty-one arrobas, or more than half a ton; another is moſtly of ſolid gold.

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The new cathedral is a vaſt pile, with large and lofty domes, and many well proportioned pillars; yet the whole appears heavy and diſguſting. The effect is owing to the ſingle circumſtance of its being loaded with a very projecting cornice, ſuch as would not be void of elegance in a rotunda of vaſt dimenſions, but by no means ſuitable to an edifice, which abounds with angles. All who view this building are ſtruck with the abſurdity of theſe prepoſterous ornaments, yet the architect wants reſolution to retract them. It is not, however, impoſſible, that the waves may wipe away this diſgrace to taſte, becauſe they have begun their devaſtations on that ſide, and not more than ten feet are interpoſed between the building and the ſea.

Near to the cathedral is the *Plaza de Toros*, for the bull-feaſts, built intirely with wood, making externally a mean appearance; but within, it is both pretty and commodious. I had been ſolicitous to ſee the dexterity of the moſt famous matador in Spain, named Romero, but at this ſeaſon the bull-feaſts are prohibited.

Not far from hence is the obſervatory,

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in a moſt advantageous ſituation; but unfortunately the inſtruments, although the beſt that our Engliſh artiſts of the day could furniſh, are neglected, and will ſoon be ruined.

The academy for the three noble arts of painting, ſculpture, and architecture, is at preſent, as a building, ſcarcely worthy of attention. It will, however, be removed into the centre of the city, when a ſufficient fund can be provided for that purpoſe.

In the convents are a few good pictures; more eſpecially in the cloiſter of the Auguſtin friars; and in that of the capuchins we find ſome moſt worthy of attention, by Murillo. In the garden of the Franciſcans is the dragon's-blood-tree, mentioned by Quer, in his Botany of Spain.

Of the three hoſpitals, two are moſt remarkable for neatneſs; the third deſerves reproach for filth and naſtineſs; yet this perhaps is the beſt conducted for general utility. It is called the Royal or Military Hoſpital, becauſe deſigned for ſoldiers, and has fourſcore ſtudents, who are maintained and educated at the king's expence. It has a good botanical garden, and a theatre for

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for diſſections furniſhed with ſubjects from among the patients. One of the two diſtinguiſhed for neatneſs is ſet apart for women; the other, dedicated to *San Juan de Dios*, and deſigned for men, is elegant. All the wards are paved with marble in checkers of black and white; and inſtead of white walls, of wainſcoting, or of ſtucco, the ſides are covered with Dutch tiles.

In this hoſpital, the beds having no curtains, I ſaw death in all its ſtages, from its diſtant approach to its cloſing ſcene; from ordinary diſeaſe to the laſt and feebleſt ſtruggles, to the pale viſage, and the trembling lips of expiring nature. My attention was directed towards each dying object by a croſs at the bed's head, which indicated, that he had received the ſacraments of the euchariſt, and of extreme unction. To one, who had formerly walked an hoſpital; to one, whoſe office leads him to attend the dying and the dead, death muſt naturally have loſt much of its terror; but the view of ſo many objects of diſtreſs, ſinking under the preſſure of diſeaſe, I muſt confeſs, ſpread a gloom over my mind, ſuch as no one ſhould ſubject himſelf

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ſelf to, unleſs he is either called to it in the way of duty, or is bleſſed with peculiar fortitude of nerves.

They have commonly in this hoſpital more than ſix thouſand patients, and out of theſe they annually loſe one tenth; but at different ſeaſons the proportion varies.

Beſide theſe hoſpitals for the ſick, there is a retreat for widows, founded by Juan Fragela, a Turkey merchant, born at Damaſcus, and ſettled at Cadiz, who died A. D. 1756, aged one hundred and four. In this hoſpital forty-ſeven widows have each two good rooms, with a weekly allowance of ſix reals. They appear to find in it a comfortable refuge.

The moſt intereſting eſtabliſhment in Cadiz, and the beſt conducted of its kind in Spain, is the hoſpicio, or general workhouſe. This building is large and lofty, handſome and commodious. In it are received the poor of every nation, who are unable to maintain themſelves, and in the firſt place, orphans, deſerted children, and the aged, who are paſſed the capability for labour, the blind, the lame, idiots, and mad people, but eſpecially prieſts, when

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aged and reduced to poverty. Even ſtrangers paſſing through the city, with permiſſion of the governor, may be entertained two days.

Neatneſs univerſally prevails, and all, who are here received, are clean, well clothed, and have plenty of the beſt proviſions. Care is taken to inſtruct them in the chriſtian doctrines, and every ſix months the young people are publicly examined. Their education is to read, to write, to caſt accounts; and ſuch as manifeſt abilities, are not only inſtructed in the principles of geometry, but, if they are ſo inclined, are taught to draw. The boys are trained to weaving, and to various crafts; the girls ſpin wool, flax, and cotton; they knit, make lace, or are employed in plain work.

Of the eight hundred and thirty-four paupers provided for at the time of my viſiting this eſtabliſhment, the 21ſt of March, 1787, the old men were one hundred and nine, the aged women one hundred and thirty-one, the boys two hundred and thirty-five, the girls one hundred and ſeventy-one, married people eighteen, idiots and mad people, thirty-four; under cor-

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rection, men fifty-nine, women thirty-eight; as ſervants thirty-nine. The number indeed is perpetually varying; but in the whole of the preceding year, the rations of proviſion were three hundred twelve thouſand four hundred and nine, which number, divided by three hundred and ſixty-five, points out the average to have been eight hundred and fifty-five perſons maintained daily in this houſe. Forty-five looms, and ſixteen ſtocking frames are provided for their ſervice, with a ſufficient number of ſpinning-wheels, working benches, tools for carpenters, turners, ſhoemakers, and taylors, a twiſting mill, a ſpinning jenny, and a machine for carding cotton.

To encourage induſtry, an account is kept for each individual, wherein he is made debtor to the houſe at the rate of three reals, or about ſeven-pence a day, and has credit given him for all the work he does; and ſhould the balance be, as often happens, in his favour, it is paid to him, whenever he can make it appear, to the ſatisfaction of the directors, that he is able to eſtabliſh himſelf without their future aid. I examined the accounts of many,

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many, who cleared for themſelves more than half a crown a week; and were looking out for ſettlements, that they might marry, and gather the fruits of their own induſtry.

Adjoining to the houſe is a ſpacious ſhop for the accommodation of all, who are willing to work, wherein are provided proper implements, and raw materials; and the moment any one has completed his work, he receives the price of his labour, without any deduction; being at liberty not only to lodge, where he pleaſes, but to ſpend his gains according to his fancy. Here I counted more than ſeventy young people at their wheels.

But becauſe many, who would work, are indiſpenſably confined at home, where, from poverty, they are unable to procure either wheels or wool; the governors provide both, and pay them, without any deduction, for their work. By theſe means, when I was there, of three hundred and forty-eight families, more than five hundred ſouls, were trained to induſtry. The directors informed me of three children, the eldeſt nine years of age, who by ſpinning gained ſix reals, that is more than fourteen

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fourteen pence a day, and maintained a paralytic father.

Not ſatisfied with theſe exertions, they have eſtabliſhed ſchools in the diſtant quarters of the city, on the ſame plan; and, providing the beſt maſters in every branch of buſineſs, which they wiſh to cultivate, they admit freely all, who are deſirous of being taught.

It is their intention to pick out from the brighteſt of their boys the beſt draftſmen, and having inſtructed them in the various languages of Europe, to make them travel for the acquiſition of knowledge, and the advancement of manufactures.

As the ſurrounding pariſhes may not find it convenient to adopt ſimilar inſtitutions on a ſmaller ſcale, therefore they receive the infants, the aged, and the infirm, from any of them, on condition of being paid in due proportion for their board.

The management is veſted in twelve directors, who are preſided over by the governor of the city for the time being, with power to fill up of themſelves any vacancy, which may happen in their body. Of theſe, ſix take the general overſight of the various departments; the other ſix have

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have each a ſeparate charge, that every one may enjoy, without another to ſhare it with him, the applauſe which his zeal deſerves. One is accomptant general; another is treaſurer; a third is ſteward, to collect the rents, and to manage the revenue; a fourth has the overſight of manufactures; the fifth takes the charge of the proviſions; and the ſixth provides the raiment.

All their accounts are clear, diſtinct, and kept with moſt minute exactneſs.

The ſources of their revenue are from voluntary contributions; legacies; a tax of one real a fanega on all the wheat brought into the city; and from the produce of labour in the houſe. The whole expence, in the year 1786, was one million three hundred and eighty-five thouſand reals, viz.

	Reals vellon.
Proviſions -	541,640
Clothes - -	58,409
Salaries - -	66,590
Sundries - -	718,361
	1,385,000 reals vellon.

Which,

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Which, dividing by one hundred, that is by cutting off two figures from the right, leaves thirteen thouſand eight hundred and fifty pounds.

The preceding year the clothing was nearly three times as much; but the other expences differed little from the year now under examination. If we take the average at eight hundred and fifty perſons, we ſhall find the food for each amounting to ſix hundred and thirty-ſeven reals, or ſix pounds ſeven ſhilling and four pence, and the clothes to thirteen ſhillings and eight-pence. But in order to find out the whole expence on account of each individual, we muſt conſider, that during the three years ſince the hoſpicio was firſt opened, the goods unfold in the magazines amount to four hundred and ſeventy-three thouſand one hundred and fifty-one reals, which being divided by three, gives one hundred and fifty-ſeven thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen for the proportion of one year. Now this being deducted from one million three hundred and eighty-five thouſand, leaves one million two hundred and twenty-ſeven thouſand two hundred

and

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and eighty-three as the expence of the public for the year 1786, and this, divided by eight hundred and fifty, gives one thouſand four hundred and forty-three reals, or fourteen pounds eight ſhillings and ſeven pence for the expence of each, not including the produce of his labour.

This accumulation of goods in their magazines ariſes from the want of a market. Public bodies being deficient in watchfulneſs, activity, and zeal, labour under this diſadvantage, and will never find a vent for their commodities, unleſs at a price greatly inferior to what private manufacturers will be able to obtain. From hence ariſes one argument againſt ſuch eſtabliſhments; but although ſtrong, it is by no means the ſtrongeſt, becauſe univerſally people in confinement, and deprived of liberty, eat too much, and work too little. This beyond a queſtion is the caſe at Cadiz, in the hoſpicio, in which they have ninety-two holidays allowed them, and in which the expence of food and raiment is double what it ſhould be.

In the conduct of this eſtabliſhment we find many things highly to be commended, and

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and in the firſt place we muſt admire the activity and zeal of the directors. That gentlemen of diſtinguiſhed talents, and men of buſineſs, ſhould be animated with ſuch zeal for the public good, as to devote a conſiderable portion of their time to it, and aſſemble every evening to ſuperintend this work, can never be ſufficiently applauded. In the detail of this buſineſs we diſcover not only zeal, but zeal well directed for the beſt of purpoſes. Nothing can be more worthy of imitation than the public work-ſhop, with the practice of providing wheels and wool for thoſe who are confined at home; nor can any thing more effectually excite the ingenuous mind to induſtry than the idea, that he ſhall be rewarded for his pains, and in the iſſue reap the fruits of his own exertions. But inaſmuch as many among the lower claſſes are deſtitute of generous ſentiments, and as moſt of them have, by their ſupineneſs, reduced themſelves to diſtreſs and poverty; the regulation introduced into one of our workhouſes at Bradford, in Wiltſhire, by a moſt ingenious manager, may perhaps, and, I apprehend, undoubtedly will, be found preferable

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preferable for general utility. He calculates what every one is capable of earning, without oppreſſion, and accordingly appoints the morning and the evening taſk, which muſt be performed before they either eat or drink. When this taſk is accompliſhed; whatever more they earn, they immediately receive. From this conduct of the manager, the poor feel conſtantly the two-fold incentive of hope and fear, which certainly is much better for them than to be under the influence of one motive only, and that more remote. His plan is to receive and to relieve the poor in the hour of diſtreſs; but at the ſame time to teach them induſtry, and to get rid of them as ſoon as poſſible.

In certain circumſtances it may be wiſe to take children from their parents, and to educate them in public ſeminaries; but then it ſhould be remembered, that thus trained they are ſeldom hardy, and that they have never been found to make good domeſtics; nor are they qualified to rear a family, like thoſe, who have been bred up in cottages, and have, from their infancy, been

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been taught to turn their hands to every kind of work.

To take old people from their families, and, under pretence of providing better for their wants, to rob them of thoſe endearments, and that tender care, which they would have received from their neareſt relatives and friends, is cruel in the extreme; and to leave empty a wretched cottage, or a miſerable bed, for the reception of freſh wretchedneſs and miſery, is ſo far from being either politic or wiſe, that no conduct can be more remote from wiſdom and ſound policy. If, the moment you had provided for the object of diſtreſs, you were to pull down the habitation, and ſet fire to the bed; if you were to deſtroy the neſt, which nothing but wretchedneſs can occupy; the caſe would then be different. The principle on which is built this obſervation, being little underſtood, and leſs attended to, I ſhall endeavour to explain it.

Navigators make mention of an iſland in the South Seas, which, from the firſt diſcoverer, is called *Juan Fernandez*. In this ſequeſtered ſpot he placed a colony of goats, conſiſting

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conſiſting of one male attended by his female. This happy couple, finding paſture in abundance, could readily obey the firſt command, to increaſe and multiply, till in proceſs of time they had repleniſhed their little iſland. Dampier, vol. i. p. 88. In advancing to this period they were ſtrangers to miſery and want, and ſeemed to glory in their numbers: but from this unhappy moment they began to ſuffer hunger; yet continuing for a time to increaſe their numbers, had they been endued with reaſon, they muſt have apprehended the extremity of famine. In this ſituation the weakeſt firſt gave way, and plenty was again reſtored. Thus they fluctuated between happineſs and miſery, and either ſuffered want or rejoiced in abundance, according as their numbers were diminiſhed or increaſed; never at a ſtay, yet nearly balancing at all times their quantity of food. This degree of equipoiſe was from time to time deſtroyed, either by epidemical diſeaſes, or by the arrival of ſome veſſel in diſtreſs. On ſuch occaſions their numbers were conſiderably reduced; but to compenſate for this alarm, and to comfort them for the loſs of

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their companions, the ſurvivors never failed immediately to meet returning plenty: they were no longer in fear of famine; they ceaſed to regard each other with an evil eye; all had abundance; all were contented; all were happy. Thus, what might have been conſidered as misfortunes, proved a ſource of comfort; and, to them at leaſt, partial evil was univerſal good.

When the Spaniards found that the Engliſh privateers reſorted to this iſland for proviſions, they reſolved on the total extirpation of the goats, and for this purpoſe they put on ſhore a greyhound dog and bitch. Ulloa, b. 2. c. 4. Theſe in their turn increaſed and multiplied, in proportion to the quantity of food they met with; but in conſequence, as the Spaniards had foreſeen, the breed of goats diminiſhed. Had they been totally deſtroyed, the dogs likewiſe muſt have periſhed. But as many of the goats retired to the craggy rocks, where the dogs could never follow them, deſcending only for ſhort intervals to feed, with fear and circumſpection, in the vallies, few of theſe, beſides the careleſs and the raſh, became a prey; and none but the moſt watchful,

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watchful, ſtrong, and active of the dogs could get a ſufficiency of food. Thus a new kind of balance was eſtabliſhed. The weakeſt of both ſpecies were among the firſt to pay the debt of nature; the moſt active and vigorous preſerved their lives. It is the quantity of food which regulates the number of the human ſpecies.

If we ſuppoſe, in a good climate, with plenty of food and healthy habitations, the number of children in each family on the average to be four, and the mean age to which they ſhall arrive to be fifty years; if the men ſhould marry at the age of twenty-one, and the women at nineteen, then one couple, at the end of thirty-three years, will leave twelve deſcendants. In fifty-nine years there will be twenty-four perſons; and at the end of one hundred and twenty-nine years, they will be one hundred and eighty-eight, or ninety-four times their firſt number.

Father Feyjoo relates, that, A. D. 1590, one man and four women, who had eſcaped from ſhipwreck, landed in the iſle of Pines, near Madagaſcar, where, finding plenty of good fruit, they became, when diſcovered by

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the Dutch, twelve thouſand. Should any one conceive either this fact, as it very probably is, to be miſtated, or my ſuppoſition to go much beyond the mark, he is welcome to reduce the number as low as he pleaſes, provided he leaves me in poſſeſſion of this principle, that in certain circumſtances and in given periods, men will multiply in proportion to their food.

We are informed, that the Iſraelites, when they came into Egypt, were ſeventy ſouls; that they remained in the land of Goſhen four hundred and thirty years, and that when they departed, omitting the Levites, the amount of all, that were able to go out to war, was ſix hundred and three thouſand five hundred and fifty *males*, of twenty years old and upwards. From theſe data we may conclude, that the Iſraelites doubled their numbers every twenty-ſeven years, or nearly within that term.

The population in North-America doubles every five and twenty years; but in ſome provinces every fifteen years. In modern Europe it requires, according to Dr. Smith, five hundred years to double the number of its inhabitants. The reaſon of

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of this becomes obvious, if we call to mind the principles on which depend the propagation of the ſpecies, and the cauſes by which its progreſs may be retarded, or altogether limited. Theſe are,

1ſt, Want of food, as on the highlands of Scotland, where a woman will bring twenty children, and rear only two; or in the woods among the hunting tribes; or even in the moſt highly cultivated country, when the population is advanced to the utmoſt ability of the ſoil to nouriſh, like as in China, where numbers are expoſed, and periſh in their infancy, for want of food, and where many are deterred from marriage by the fear of wanting bread.

2d, Diſeaſes, either peculiar to the climate as at Senegal and at Batavia; or induced, as at Conſtantinople, and even in London, by infection, foul air, confinement, and bad nurſing: diſeaſes not confined to woods, not ravaging the ſavage tribes alone, but ſpreading with more fatal virulence in great, in rich, and in luxurious cities.

3d, Want of commerce for the promotion of induſtry, and of a market for the ſurplus of its produce.

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4th, War in all its forms, whether carried on by uncultivated or by poliſhed nations, either for plunder, for conqueſt, or for the extenſion of commerce.

5th, Superſtitious vows impoſed on the monaſtic orders, and celibacy enjoined the prieſthood.

6th, Emigration of the breeding ſtock, and transference of capitals, ariſing either from a bad police, or from a vicious form of government, and the want of that ſecurity of perſon and of property which can be enjoyed only where freedom reigns; that is, where men are ſure of being protected from the oppreſſion of arbitrary power, and are ſubject to none but wiſe and equitable laws.

7th, Want of land, or the opportunity of acquiring it by induſtry.

8th, Want of habitations.

Now in proportion as you remove theſe obſtacles, your population will advance. When, therefore, it is your object to increaſe the number of your people; the way to accompliſh this will be obvious, and the taſk in Spain, under a wiſe government, would be eaſy; but when the queſtion is, how to baniſh

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baniſh poverty and wretchedneſs, *hoc opus, hic labor eſt.* Yet in the inveſtigation of this queſtion we have one general principle to guide us: increaſe the quantity of food, or where that is limited, preſcribe bounds to population. In a fully peopled country, to ſay, that no one ſhall ſuffer want is abſurd. Could you ſupply their wants, you would ſoon double their numbers, and advance your population *ad infinitum*, which is contrary to the ſuppoſition. It is indeed poſſible to baniſh hunger, and to ſupply that want at the expence of another; but then you muſt determine the proportion that ſhall marry, becauſe you will have no other way to limit the number of your people. No human efforts will get rid of this dilemma; nor will men ever find a method, either more natural, or better in any reſpect, than to leave one appetite to regulate another.

Having already enlarged upon this ſubject, I ſhall here only refer to ſuch rules, as may enable us to form a proper judgment of the workhouſe in Cadiz.

To inſtitute public ſhops, where the induſtrious may at all times find employ-

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ment, is benevolent and wiſe: to ſupply them at home with implements and raw materials is politic; but to expect a profit from the labour of people in confinement is abſurd.

To ſupply the indigent with food and raiment, provided you thereby do not offer a premium to indolence, prodigality, and vice, is ſalutary.

To correct the lazy and the ſpendthrift, to ſhut them up in houſes of confinement till they have acquired habits of ſobriety and induſtry, is both juſt and prudent; but in ſuch eſtabliſhments, to feed, to clothe, to lodge them better than the ſober and the diligent are lodged, are clothed, are fed, is not agreeable to any principles of equity, and is inconſiſtent with ſound policy.

Upon the grounds already ſtated, I may venture to predict, that notwithſtanding the zeal and efforts of the gentlemen, who ſuperintend the general workhouſe at Cadiz, and in ſpite of all their wiſe regulations, unleſs the people in it are compelled to work more, and have leſs to eat; in a courſe of years the city will be nearly as full

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full of beggars as before the foundation of this houſe was laid. For whilſt all the habitations, now recently emptied, remain to receive new tenants in ſimilar diſtreſs with thoſe who quitted them, and whilſt ſuch a comfortable refuge is at hand for them; indolence, prodigality, and vice will have nothing to fear, but every thing to hope; and the moſt improvident will not heſitate to contract thoſe bands, on which the propagation of their race depends.

I cannot quit the hoſpicio, without taking notice of the kitchen, on account of its ſingular ſtructure. The chimney is an octagon, in the middle of the room, ſurrounded by ſixteen ſtoves, eight of them large, and contiguous to it, and as many ſmall, communicating by means of flues. The larger ſtoves are three feet diameter, by three and an half in depth. Under the kitchen is a cellar to receive the aſhes.

The merchants of this city, ever ſince the commerce of Peru and Mexico was tranſported here from Seville, have riſen in conſideration; but, in the preſent moment, they have received a ſevere ſhock by the removal of the barrier, which had ſecured

that

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that monopoly to them. The conſequence has been, a glutted market in the Tranſ-atlantic colonies, many failures in Cadiz, and not a few in thoſe cities, which have eagerly engaged in new and flattering enterprizes, without ſufficient capitals to ſtand the ſhock of competition and the heavy loſſes inevitable upon the firſt laying open of an extenſive commerce.

The Spaniſh government has never yet acquired any liberal ideas reſpecting trade, and even at the preſent moment, ſome of their beſt political writers reſemble lag hounds hunting the ſtale ſcent, whilſt the fleeteſt are already in poſſeſſion of the game. Inſtead of throwing down every obſtacle to commerce, they labour to contract its limits, under the vain hope of eſtabliſhing a monopoly, without conſidering either their own want of capital, of induſtry, and of an enterpriſing ſpirit, or the utter impoſſibility of preventing ſmuggling, whilſt other nations, with greater advantages for trade, can underſell them in the market. Until they ſhall be more enlightened, until they ſhall have baniſhed their inquiſitors, and until the happy period ſhall arrive,

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arrive, when, under the protection of a free government, they ſhall have reſtored public credit, and placed it on a firm foundation; all their prohibitions, all their ſeverities exerciſed on the property and perſons of the illicit traders, all their commercial treaties, and all their commercial wars, into which ambition may betray them, will be frivolous and vain; becauſe no efforts will ever prevail againſt the united intereſts of their own ſubjects, and of all ſurrounding nations.

Even at home, the watchfulneſs and energy of government have never been able to enforce its prohibitions; for, notwithſtanding theſe, when I was travelling through Spain, all the men appeared in Mancheſter cotton goods, and no woman was ſeen without her muſlin veil. In Spain, as throughout Europe, it is found, that when the price of inſurance is leſs than the duties impoſed on the commodity, no laws are ſufficient to controul the operations of illicit traders.

Previous to the year 1720, the commerce of America was confined to Seville, not intentionally, but by a regulation of Charles V. in the year 1529, who, with a view of laying

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laying that commerce open for all his ſubjects of Caſtille, permitted merchants to freight their ſhips from the ports of Biſcay, the Aſturias, Gallicia, Malaga and Carthagena, provided they returned to *Seville*; under penalty of death, and confiſcation of their cargoes, in caſe of non-compliance with that abſurd injunction. As for the cities belonging to the crown of Arragon, they were wholly excluded from the commerce of America, and could reap no advantage from the newly diſcovered continent. In conſequence of theſe regulations, and the heavy duties of twenty per cent. impoſed on all goods exported to America, or imported from it, beſide the duty of tonnage on the veſſels; the contraband trade became ſo lucrative, and of courſe ſo extenſive in its operations, that little could be carried on to advantage under the ſanction of the laws. And the manufacturers of Spain, who A. D. 1545, had ſuch a demand for goods, that merchants were happy to engage with them ſix years before hand, contracting to take from them all that they could poſſibly produce; theſe ſame manufacturers lived to ſee the market loſt, and were reduced from

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the height of commercial affluence, to penury and want.

A. D. 1720, the emporium was changed, and the commerce, which for two centuries had proved a ſource of wealth to Seville, was tranſlated to Cadiz. At the ſame time the duties were lowered, and, inſtead of twenty per cent. on exports, rated according to their value, all bale goods and boxes paid a ſettled tonnage of five reals and an half of plate for the cubic palm, without examination, or any conſideration, either of the nature or of the quality of the articles contained in them. The tonnage varied according to a table comprehending the ſixteen ports of Spaniſh America, being different in each. The inexpediency of theſe regulations is too obvious to eſcape unnoticed by the reader.

Theſe were not, however, the only miſtakes made by the Spaniſh government in its commerce with the colonies; for, inſtead of diſpatching ſmall veſſels frequently, as the market might require; previous to the year 1748, the whole trade was carried on by twenty-ſeven galleons, and flotas to the number of about twenty-three; the former ſailing

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ſailing annually to Porto Bello, the latter, once in three years, to Vera Cruz; the former for the commerce of Peru, the latter for that of Mexico; the ſmalleſt veſſel being about five hundred and fifty tons, the others from eight hundred to one thouſand.

The galleons firſt touched at Carthagena for the convenience of the merchants of Popayan and Santa Fé, who brought gold and bezoar ſtones, carrying back with them, in exchange, proviſions and European goods. But the principal mart was Porto Bello, a town ſituated in ſuch a barren country, and ſubject to ſuch noxious vapours, that, except during the annual fair, which laſted forty days, it was deſerted. Hither the merchants brought their gold and ſilver, with Peruvian bark, and Vicuña wool; and beyond this the Spaniſh trader could not ſend his goods, nor could the Peruvians diſpoſe of theirs, upon their own account, in Spain.

The Engliſh, by an article in the peace of Utrecht, had the privilege of ſending annually a ſhip of five hundred tons to Porto Bello, loaded with all kinds of merchandiſe;

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diſe; but under covert of this indulgence they commonly freighted one of twice that burthen, accompanied by tenders from Jamaica, with which, when near the port, they exchanged proviſions for piece goods; and by that contrivance, uſually carried more articles of commerce than five or ſix of the Spaniſh fleet. From A. D. 1737, the fair, and, together with it, Panama and Porto Bello, have declined. (*V.* Dampier's and Ulloa's Voyages.)

As long as the court confined the trade of Peru to galleons, it gradually decreaſed, inſomuch that inſtead of employing fifteen thouſand tons, it was ſunk, in the year 1740, to leſs than two thouſand. (*V.* Campomanes *Educacion popular*.) But no ſooner had the marquis de la Enſenada ſubſtituted regiſter ſhips in the place of galleons, to proceed directly by Cape Horn to the place of their deſtination, than the trade revived; and when, in the year 1765, the barriers were in part removed, and all Spain, the provinces of Biſcay alone excepted, was permitted to ſend its productions to Jucatan and the windward iſlands of Margarita and Trinidad; and when, inſtead of the duties

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of the tonelada and palmeo, only ſix per cent. was laid upon all goods exported; the commerce, which had been like the ſummer's brook, ſoon reſembled a great river, and enriched all the countries through which it flowed.

In conſequence of the benefits which merchants, manufacturers, planters, and the revenue received by the partial removal of theſe impediments to commerce, government, although reluctantly, at laſt (A. D. 1778) agreeable to the remonſtrances of Count Campomanes, conſented to lay open the trade of America to all its ſubjects, thoſe alone excepted, who, not being bound by the general laws of the peninſula, could not ſafely be admitted to the enjoyment of this privilege. The inhabitants of Biſcay have, however, no reaſon to complain, becauſe they poſſeſs an ample compenſation for their loſs in the peculiar immunities, which they inherit from their fathers, and more eſpecially in the freedom of their ports.

Such have been the general regulations. But Spain, like England, and other nations of Europe, has granted, from time to time, excluſive

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exclusive privileges to chartered companies, not only to the injury of its citizens at large, and of its manufacturers in particular, but to the oppression of those provinces, which have been subjected to a monopoly. If a country could be found uncivilized, yet free, and abounding with capitals unemployed in trade; or if large sums were required for hazardous undertakings, more than could be raised on the credit of a private company, in such a case, the grant of a monopoly, with peculiar privileges, might be endured; but that a trade, once open, should be confined for the benefit of a few, to the disadvantage of the many, is inconsistent with every principle of equity, and of commercial policy.

A. D. 1728, Philip V. granted by charter to a company, taking the name of Guipuzcoa, the exclusive trade of Caraccas, in the province of Venezuela, with the privilege of reshipping, by smaller vessels, all its surplus commodities for Cumana and Guayana, with Trinidad and Margarita, two islands at the mouth of the Oronoco, that this company might exchange European goods for gold, silver, hides, cacao, sugar,

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and ſuch other fruits as theſe countries produced; but in the event, cacao became their ſtaple commodity. A. D. 1752, the province of Maracaybo was added to their grant.

This company at firſt employed twelve veſſels to carry on its trade, with nineteen to guard the coaſt from ſmugglers, varying theſe numbers as ſuited their convenience; and for both theſe purpoſes they engaged two thouſand five hundred ſeamen. Such an expence, with the heavy charge of management by directors, ſupercargoes, factors, agents, clerks, &c. &c. required conſiderable profits, beyond what the private adventurer would have been happy to receive, had the trade been free; and therefore, as was moſt natural, produced exaction operating againſt the coloniſt, a contracted commerce checking the manufacturer at home, and ſeverities exerciſed in vain to reſtrain the operations of the illicit trader. (*Vide* Campomanes Educ. pop.)

The ports they uſed in Spain were S. Sebaſtian and Cadiz, into which, in five years, from 1770 to 1774, they imported one

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one hundred ſeventy nine thouſand one hundred and fifty-ſix fanegas of cacao, each fanega being one hundred and ten Caſtillian pounds; and by this large importation ſunk the price of chocolate in Spain to one-half of what it had been before.

The cacao is the fruit of the *Theobroma foliis integerrimis*, one of the Polyadelphia, Pentandria, and flouriſhes in America between the tropics, but more eſpecially in the province of Venezuela. The fruit grows on the trunk and on the branches, and never fails at any ſeaſon of the year. In Spain they mix ſix pounds of the nut with three pounds or three and an half of ſugar, ſeven pods of vanillas, one pound and an half of Indian corn, and half a pound of cinnamon, ſix cloves, one drachm of capſicum, ſome roucou nut, to improve the colour, and a ſmall portion of muſk, or ambergris, to give it a pleaſant ſcent. Some people, however, uſe only the nut, with ſugar and cinnamon. The Indians, to one pound of the nut put half a pound of Indian corn, with an equal quantity of ſugar, and ſome roſe-water.

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The vanillas are pods filled with minute ſeeds, from a paraſitical climbing plant, deſcribed under the name of *Epidendrum Vanillia*, Sp. Pl. 1347, belonging to the Gynandrous claſs, (*v.* Pulteney's View of the Writings of Linnæus.)

A. D. 1780, the Carraccas company received the ſevereſt ſhock in the capture of a rich convoy by Lord Rodney, valued at more than two hundred thouſand pounds; and a few years after, their capital was abſorbed in a new eſtabliſhment, called the Company of the Philippines.

This company, inſtituted agreeably to the ideas ſuggeſted by the Abbé Raynal, in his view of the European ſettlements, took its riſe in the year 1785, with a capital of twelve hundred thouſand pounds, and with valuable privileges granted to it for a term of twenty-five years. Previous to this eſtabliſhment, two ſhips ſailed annually, one from Acapulco, a ſea-port of Mexico, and croſſing the Pacific Ocean, carried the treaſures of America to the Philippines; the other, returning by the ſame courſe from Manilla, the capital of Luconia, came to Acapulco, where it was met

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met by veſſels from Lima, loaded with cacao, quickſilver, and hard dollars; in barter for which the merchants ſent back china ware, ſpices, perfumes, ſilk, callicoes, muſlins, and printed linens, the produce of the Eaſt.

When the Philippine company began its operations, this traffic ceaſed; and now, under the ſpecious idea of ſaving time, with freight and inſurance, required in conveying the gold and ſilver, but chiefly ſilver, of Peru and Mexico, by Europe to the eaſt, theſe precious metals are ſent directly weſtward to the place of their final deſtination, whilſt the more bulky and periſhable produce of the Eaſt, to the ſame amount in value, is diverted from its former courſe, and made to deſcribe, in the oppoſite direction, that ſegment of the circle, which had anciently been traced by the ſilver and the gold.

The Philippine iſlands, almoſt innumerable, and caſt up by volcanos, are healthy, fertile, and, beſide all the grains of Europe, produce gold, copper, iron, ſhip-timber, hemp, alum, ſalt-petre, cattle, hides, ſago, rice, raiſins, cacao, ſugar, tobacco, wax, fiſh, and couries, which are the money of

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Indoſtan. Theſe, with the ſilver, indigo, and cochineal of America, the company barters with the merchants of Aſia for muſlins, cottons, ſilks, ſpices, tea, quickſilver, and china ware, which, with the ſuperabundant produce of the iſlands, are now brought by the Cape of Good Hope to Europe, and are admitted under eaſy duties into Spain with a drawback of one-third on their exportation.

Nothing could be more flattering to the hopes of the miniſter, than a plan apparently ſo well contrived, and carried on under the auſpices of a moſt able and enterpriſing foreigner, who had already ſignalized himſelf by the formation of the bank. Yet pleaſing as the proſpect was, all his hopes, and all the expectations of the nation are upon the point of vaniſhing. With heavy charges of adminiſtration, with every diſadvantage in the purchaſe of commodities, the chief articles of trade are either ſpoiling for want of a market, or ſold to a conſiderable loſs. As for tea they never uſe it; china ware is little in requeſt, and even with us will ſcarcely pay the freight; the ſilks, the muſlins, and the cotton goods, whilſt they could find purchaſers, had a tendency to deſtroy

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deſtroy their favourite manufactures; and now, ſince theſe latter articles muſt abide the iſſue of a fair competition with the Engliſh, the company may be ſaid to have received its mortal wound.

In a country ſubject to deſpotic power, if the miniſter of the day will purchaſe confidence, he muſt bid high for it; if he will have trading companies incorporated, with commanding capitals, he muſt grant them monopolies, with excluſive privileges, inconſiſtent with the general good. Yet after all, ſuch companies will hold theſe privileges by a moſt uncertain tenure, and when they come to balance their accounts, may find, that whilſt they flattered themſelves with the hope of gaining more than juſt and reaſonable intereſt for their money, they have loſt the capital itſelf.

Should this be the event with the Philippine company, the nation will have reaſon to rejoice, and the private merchant may triumph in its fall, not on account of its oſtenſibly excluſive privileges, but becauſe the whole of America and of Africa being open to its ſpeculations, no limited capitals can ſtand a competition with it in

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the market. Had they met with the ſupport they had reaſon to expect, they muſt have ſwallowed up the whole trade of Spain and in the iſſue have been the ruin of that country.

They have already extended their operations to Vera Cruz, to Buenos Ayres, and to moſt ſea-ports of America, and at the preſent moment they are purchaſing ſlaves on the coaſt of Africa. Theſe formerly were ſupplied by the Engliſh, agreeably to an article in the peace of Utrecht, known by the name of the *Aſſiento*. Since the expiration of this grant, various contracts have been made, and among others, one recently with Dawſon and Baker, of Liverpool, who have agreed to furniſh three thouſand annually to the Spaniſh iſlands, and upon this contract have received three hundred thouſand pounds for thoſe they have ſupplied already.

The treatment of the negroes in the Spaniſh ſettlements is ſo humane, ſo wiſe, ſo juſt, and ſo perfectly agreeable to the principles of political œconomy, that I rejoice in the opportunity of giving to their government the praiſe, which is ſo peculiarly

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liarly its due. The ſlave, both in his perſon and his property, is under the protection of the laws, and retains the right of redemption upon equitable terms. Theſe are ſettled by arbitrators, the ſlave having the privilege of chooſing one, and the maſter having the nomination of the other; and in caſe of their diſagreement, the judge fixes upon a third.

As to acquiſition of property, it is rendered eaſy to the ſlave, if he has either induſtry, or any deſire to be free; becauſe he may claim the numerous feſtivals, beſide two hours in the middle of the day, to cultivate his garden, to feed his poultry and his pigs, and to carry his commodities to market. But ſuppoſing him to be a good ſervant, oppreſt by a cruel maſter, and not to have acquired ſufficient property for his own redemption, it is not uncommon for another planter, being a witneſs of his fidelity, to lend him money for the purchaſe of his freedom, and thus the generous maſter gains a valuable ſervant, whilſt the ſlave becomes happy in a maſter, to whom he can feel himſelf attached. From the apprehenſion of this, many planters, diſtinguiſhed

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guiſhed for ſeverity, are ſaid to be gentle to thoſe ſlaves, who by their amiable diſpoſition, or by more than common excellence, have merited attention.

Is not this regulation more beneficial to the whole community, than if all the ſlaves indiſcriminately were reſtored to freedom? In the Spaniſh iſlands its good effects have been experienced to ſuch a degree, that moſt of the artificers, the tradeſmen, and mechanics, are negroes, who by their induſtry and frugality, or by their ſingular fidelity, have obtained their freedom; and to the credit of this inſtitution it has been obſerved, that two of the beſt battalions at the Havannah are compoſed of blacks, who have been ſlaves.

It were much to be wiſhed that we might be warranted, with equal juſtice, to beſtow commendations on the Spaniſh court for liberality of conduct towards the colonies; but unfortunately, the ſame ſpirit of monopoly prevails in that, as in the other courts of Europe, the ſame narrow policy, the ſame contracted views; producing both at home and abroad languiſhing manufactures, a crippled trade, with poverty

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and want of population, and in the colonies, diſcontents, tending towards diſmemberment of empire.

In conſequence of oppreſſive regulations attempted in Peru, that rich province was well nigh loſt to Spain, if its political ſeparation may be conſidered as a loſs. For the Marquis de Sonora, to whoſe memory is due much encomium for his removal of impediments to trade, and for many regulations highly beneficial to the commerce of his country, when he attempted to eſtabliſh in Peru a royal monopoly of tobacco, with ſome taxes odious to the people, he kindled the flames of civil war; (A. D. 1781) and had it not been for the indiſcretion of the rebellious chief, the event would have been the ſame which England experienced upon a ſimilar occaſion. The leader of this revolt was Tupacamaro, caſique of Arequipa, who, pretending to derive his origin from the ſacred line and to be deſcended from the ſun, called himſelf the Ynca. He had met with friendſhip and protection from the corregidor; yet he began his revolt by cauſing this man to be hanged; and ſuch were the numerous inſtances

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ſtances of his cruelty and devaſtations committed on the perſons and the property of both foes and friends, that many of the Indians joined with government againſt him. He was at laſt taken priſoner, and hanged; and by his death a period was put to the civil war, yet not till more than two hundred thouſand perſons had periſhed in the conflict.

The miniſter of the Indies rendered eſſential ſervice to the mines, by lowering the price of quickſilver from eighty hard dollars to forty-one, that is, to eight pounds four ſhillings the quintal or hundred weight. The mines of Spain, chiefly that of Almaden, formerly produced a ſufficient quantity of this ſemi-metal for the colonies. They were at that time under the direction of the famous Bowles, an Iriſhman of ſingular abilities, and of ſuch integrity, that after having gained millions for the king, his widow has been left to ſpend the reſidue of her days in poverty. At preſent, Spain can furniſh only ſixteen thouſand quintals, and therefore, to ſupply the deficiency, a contract has been made with the count de Greppi, the imperial conſul at Cadiz, for twelve

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twelve thouſand quintals annually, for which government agrees to give fifty-three hard dollars, ſelling it again at ſixty-three. There was indeed a good mine of quickſilver at *Quancavelica*, in Peru; but by covetouſneſs and bad management, it fell in, and was loſt. Even after this, Ulloa might have re-eſtabliſhed it, had he not been ſo indiſcreet as to detect and to oppoſe the mal-adminiſtration of ſome men who were in power.

In conſequence of thus reducing the price of quickſilver, and lowering the tribute of gold to one in twenty, and of ſilver to one in ten, inſtead of taking, as formerly, twenty per cent on each, the produce of both increaſed, and in Mexico, A. D. 1776, double the uſual quantity of ſilver was coined, amounting to more than two millions and a half of ſterling money.

The whole produce of the Spaniſh mines in America amounted, in the year 1776, to thirty millions of dollars, or, in ſterling, four millions and a half; but in the ſpace of ſix years it roſe conſiderably, and is now ſtated at five millions four hundred thouſand pounds.

On

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On the firſt diſcovery of America, this treaſure centered in Spain; and, as far as laws could operate, was confined to the peninſula. The conſequence of this was, the ruin of their manufactures at home; for, as the cortes juſtly complained to the emperor Charles V. the quantity of gold and ſilver in ſtagnation there, raiſed the price of labour. (*v.* Campomanes Educ. popular, part iv. page 112, note 98.) Yet, in proceſs of time, the ſecret was developed, that no human power can ſtop the natural progreſs of theſe precious metals; and Spain, exhauſted of its ſilver, was overwhelmed with baſe copper money, poured into it from ſurrounding nations. (*v.* Campomanes, E. P. part iv. p. 272.)

The fact itſelf is notorious, that the country is deſtitute of ſpecie, at leaſt relatively ſo; and count Campomanes, with great propriety, points out the real cauſes which have produced this effect. As ſuch, he ſtates the expenſive wars carried on in the ſupport of foreign dominion; and, in conſequence of their having loſt their manufactures, the ſums expended to purchaſe from

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from their more induſtrious neighbours the moſt common articles of clothing.

In the year 1784, the value of exports to America was as follow, being reduced to pounds ſterling:

	Spaniſh produce.	Foreign produce.	Total produce.
Cadiz	1,438,912	2,182,531	3,621,443
Malaga	196,379	14,301	210,680
Seville	62,713	30,543	93,256
Barcelona	122,631	21,240	143,871
Coruña	64,575	39,962	104,537
Santander	36,715	90,173	126,888
Tortoſa	7,669	289	7,958
Canaries	24,974	—	24,974
Gijon	4,281	10,190	14,471
	£.1,958,849	£.2,389,229	£.4,348,078

The duties upon theſe produced one hundred ſeventy thouſand and eight hundred pounds.

The value of imports from America was as follow, being reduced to ſterling.

Cadiz

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	In money and jewels.	In merchandiſe.
Cadiz -	8,297,164	2,990,757
Malaga	—	18,605
Barcelona -	102,140	91,233
Corunna -	741,283	90,001
Santander -	40,843	100,974
Canaries -	109,807	52,366
	£.9,291,237	£.3,343,936

The whole import was £.12,635,173, being more than double what was ſtated by the abbé Raynal; and the duty upon this amounted to five hundred twenty-ſeven thouſand four hundred and twenty-three pounds.

The various prices of commodities coming from America were, A. D. 1775, in Cadiz, *viz.*

Cochineal, the beſt, from ninety-ſeven to one hundred and four ducats of eleven reals of plate the arroba, or about ſixteen ſhillings the pound.

Indigo, from twenty-one to thirty-four reals of plate the pound, the real of plate being four pence halfpenny.

Cacao, from twenty-ſix to forty-one dollars the ſanega, but moſtly at forty. As, therefore,

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therefore, ſixteen fanegas are equal at Cadiz to twenty-five Wincheſter buſhels, it may be reckoned at £. 3. 16*s*. 9*d*. the buſhel.

Sugar, moderately white, twenty-five reals of plate the arroba, or about four pence halfpenny a pound.

Hides, from Buenos Ayres, Caraccas, and Orinoco, about five pence a pound, or eighteen ſhillings the hide when raw; but from the Havannah conſiderably leſs.

Vicuña Wool, from Peru, about two pence halfpenny a pound; and from Buenos Ayres, at two pence nearly: but the beſt ſheeps wool, when waſhed, may be purchaſed there for leſs than two and three pence the arroba of twenty-eight pounds.

Cotton, clean, about three ſhillings a pound; but as the iſland of Cuba is found to produce it in vaſt abundance, the price muſt fall conſiderably.

Copper, from Mexico and Peru, twenty-four dollars the quintal, or about eight pence a pound, on a ſuppoſition that one hundred and four pounds Spaniſh equal one hundred and twelve Engliſh. From Chili it is twenty-five per cent. cheaper.

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Tin, from America, was twenty dollars the quintal, whilſt that from England ſold for twenty-five; the former being ſomething more than ſix-pence halfpenny per pound. (*v.* Campomanes, Apend. a la Ed. pop. p. 144.)

Tallow might be brought from Buenos Ayres, where it ſells for two and ſix pence the barrel of twelve arrobas, or ten pence the hundred weight: but heavy duties check this branch of commerce. (Camp. E. P. p. 333.)

A gentleman from Peru gave me ſamples of wool which came from two animals each reſembling the *Vicuña*, one called *Alpaca*, the other *Llacma*; the latter coarſe, but the former very fine and excellent for hats. It is to be lamented that theſe have not yet found their way into the market.

The whole trade of Cadiz engages about one thouſand veſſels, of which nearly one-tenth are Spaniſh.

The wines moſt remarkable in Cadiz are Sherry and Pacaretti, both from Xeres and its vicinity. The former is ſold for forty-eight pounds a ton, the latter for fifty-ſix; and theſe, when they come to England,

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England, in the out-ports, pay, cuſtoms, ſixteen guineas; exciſe, eleven pounds eighteen ſhillings the ton, being four hogſheads or two pipes; in London £. 2. 16 s. more.

Merchants are liable to peculiar diſadvantages in Spain, not only from the nature of the government, which is perfectly deſpotic, and from the ignorance, miſinformation, or inattention, too often to be lamented in the beſt of miniſters; not only by abſurd prohibitions, by monopolies, and by oppreſſive duties, but by the miſconduct of the provincial governors, who frequently are influenced by mercenary views, in the judgment they pronounce between contending parties.

A late military governor, much favoured by the king, being ſupreme in all civil and fiſcal cauſes, when he was new in office, refuſed taking bribes, and ruled his rapacious officers with a rod of iron; but long before he was diſgraced, he became infected with the love of money, and received it upon the moſt infamous occaſions without a bluſh. Under his protection, merchants defrauded the revenue, and bankrupts found ſhelter

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from their creditors. This was notorious; yet, when he was recalled, ſuch had been his predeceſſors, and ſuch were they likely to be, who ſhould be appointed to ſucceed him, that he retired lamented, and carried with him certificates of his good conduct, ſigned however, chiefly by the monks, whom, previous to his departure, he had much careſſed.

On his retreat, his power was divided, and the civil government was adminiſtered by the alcaldes mayores of the city, each alternately holding it a week. One of theſe having, for the trifling conſideration of twenty dollars, granted an order to a creditor in Spain to ſeize, for his own private benefit, the effects of a bankrupt; the agent of other creditors in England, taking the alcalde by the hand, with forty dollars, readily procured a reverſal of the order, and thus purchaſed ſubſtantial juſtice for his employers.

Another alcalde having promiſed, for one hundred dollars, not to grant an attachment to a perſon, who had pretenſions to ſome property, yet granted it, and being reproached for his conduct, replied with coolneſs,

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coolneſs, " How could I avoid it, when " he gave me forty dollars? but be not un- " eaſy, for to-morrow I will take off the " attachment."

Obnoxious to ſuch abuſes, how can commerce flouriſh?

The province of Andaluſia, watered throughout its whole extent by the Guadalquivir, if properly cultivated, ſhould produce corn ſufficient, not only for its own conſumption, but for exportation. Yet the wheat annually imported is little leſs than one million and an half of fanegas; the fanega being commonly one hundred weight, but at Cadiz, about three pounds leſs. Nearly one half this quantity, in the year 1787, came from Africa; eighty-five thouſand fanegas were imported from America, and the remainder was furniſhed by Naples, Sicily, and Sardinia; the whole amount that year being one million four hundred and forty-eight thouſand fanegas.

It is remarkable, that though they have an opportunity of conſtructing tide-mills, yet, for want of theſe, they grind their corn with mules, which coſts them ten reals, or

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two ſhillings nearly, per quintal or fanega.

To prevent a ſcarcity of corn, and to make a profit by the ſale of it, the city has eſtabliſhed a public granary, from which the bakers are ſupplied at a given price; and, according to that, the magiſtrates regulate the aſſize of bread. I viſited this vaſt repoſitory, and was much ſurpriſed to ſee the heaps of wheat full of all kinds of trumpery, not only barley, but vetches of various kinds, and a variety of noxious ſeeds. Had the grain been winnowed by the machine now in common uſe all over Scotland, it would have been more beautiful to the eye, and much more wholeſome for their food.

When I had ſatisfied my curioſity in viewing and contemplating the articles of commerce, under the protection of a friend, with whom I had ſpent much time at Madrid, I made a little excurſion to ſee the arſenals at the Caraca. Cadiz itſelf is ſtrongly fortified towards the ſea by rocks, and, on the land ſide, by works erected at a vaſt expence. Beyond theſe are market gardens on the ſtrand, watered by norias; and

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and here begins the narrow cauſeway leading to the iſle of Leon, which is an extenſive flat, uncultivated, and ſcarcely ſuſceptible of cultivation. Although barren, it produces conſiderable profit by the numerous ſalt-pools, which require very little trouble or expence; becauſe the ſun and air quickly occaſion the water to evaporate, leaving the ſalt cryſtallized.

The village of Port Royal, through which we paſſed, is one long ſtreet, well paved, and very pretty. Here my curioſity prompted me to viſit M. de Langara, who gave me a polite reception. Pleaſed with his countenance and manner, I moſt ſincerely pitied his misfortunes.

Ever ſince the war, the exertions of Spain have been inceſſant to render her marine reſpectable; but more eſpecially at the time when I was there, all was in motion, and the miniſter of the marine was making the moſt ſtrenuous efforts to equip a formidable fleet. This was done to vindicate their claims upon the Moſquito ſhore, although that territory was never ſubject to the crown of Spain, and the independent princes, who have dominion there,

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had been for ages in alliance with the Engliſh nation.

When I returned to England, I examined the nature and extent of the ſettlement which cauſed ſo much uneaſineſs to Spain. It conſiſted of no more than five hundred and ſixty-nine freemen, including the women and their children, with one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-three black ſlaves, and two hundred and four head of cattle. The uneaſineſs aroſe, therefore, not from the number of the ſettlers, but from their contraband trade; from their communication with the Moſquitos, who, in time of war, had been uſed to moleſt the Spaniards; and from the apprehenſion that, by their means, the Engliſh, in ſome future war, might eſtabliſh themſelves in force on the lake of Nicaragua.

This ſettlement was certainly valuable to England as the connecting medium between Jamaica and the Spaniſh Main for the exchange of our manufactures with Guatimala againſt indigo, cochineal, ſilver, and hard dollars. Indeed the indigo, growing wild on all that coaſt, yields the beſt commodity, and no country produces finer

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ſugar-canes. The infant colony made about a hundred and fifty hogſheads in one year; but being obliged to pay the foreign duty in England, the mills were ſuffered to decay. Mahogany was a principal article of their commerce; and of this the annual export was about three million feet. Beſide theſe articles, they ſent to England four tons of turtle-ſhells, paying a duty of one ſhilling a pound, with a hundred and twenty thouſand pounds weight of ſarſaparilla, the duty of which, at ſeven pence a pound, was three thouſand five hundred pounds; a ſum more than ſufficient to diſcharge all the expences of this new ſettlement.

Such was the value of our poſſeſſions on the Moſquito Shore, that neither the miniſter who ſigned the preliminaries of peace at the cloſe of a diſaſtrous war, nor his immediate ſucceſſor in office, who ratified that peace, would agree to their relinquiſhment; yet, in the year 1787, the ſettlement was evacuated, and our moſt faithful allies were abandoned to the mercy of their inveterate enemies.

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The magazines at the Caraca, all well arranged, are full of ſtores, and new docks have been conſtructed at a vaſt expence, for, being ſunk in a bed of ſoft clay and loam, they are conſequently difficult to conſtruct, and require unremitted labour to keep them dry. For this purpoſe they uſe chain pumps, to the number of ſixteen, each worked by eight men, who alternately pump four hours, and reſt eight. Theſe are criminals, moſtly ſmugglers, condemned to this painful ſervice, ſome for three, others for ſeven, and not a few for fourteen years. The ſmugglers are, however, diſtinguiſhed from the thieves by a ſingle chain, whilſt the latter carry two. In this dock-yard alone are a thouſand of thoſe miſerable creatures. I obſerved here a practice worthy of imitation. To preſerve their ſtore maſts from the worms, from the wind, and from the ſun, they are buried in ſand, and by this ſimple method are preſerved for many years.

In order to ſhew how much their naval power has advanced in the ſpace of a few years, I ſhall ſubjoin a ſtatement of their

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marine as it ſtood in the years 1776 and 1788.

Force.	A.D. 1776. Number of ſhips.		A.D. 1788. Number of ſhips.
112	— 1 —	—	10
94	—	—	— 3
80	— 5 —	—	3
74	—	—	— 42
70	— 41		
68	—	—	— 5
64	— 4 —	—	5
60	— 6		
58	—	—	— 4
54	—	—	— 1
40	—	—	— 2
34	—	—	— 40

I take no notice of the ſmaller frigates, they being of trifling importance.

By this ſtatement it is evident, that in twelve years the naval force of Spain has been nearly doubled, conſidering merely the guns; but when we take into conſideration the number of their leading ſhips; in point of reſpectability, it will appear to be much more than doubled; and if we pay attention either to the views of government, or to the peculiar taſte and diſpoſition of the new ſovereign, we may conclude that no expence

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pence will be ſpared, nor the moſt watchful attention wanting, to render their navy ſtill more formidable. In the ſummer of 1790 their fleet of obſervation conſiſted of twenty-eight ſhips of the line, among which were four ſhips of 112: beſide theſe, they had ſix of the line ſtationed in the Mediterranean, and a ſtrong fleet in America.

It is a queſtion worthy of diſcuſſion, whether Spain ought to aim at being diſtinguiſhed as a naval power; or whether the ſums annually expended with that view would not be more profitably employed in exciting induſtry, by opening communications, promoting agriculture, cheriſhing manufactures, encouraging trade, and by adopting every plan, followed by the moſt enlightened nations, to facilitate commercial intercourſe. Should ſhe adhere to the coloniſing ſyſtem, a powerful navy will be needful to protect her commerce, and to ſecure her monopolies; but then it ſhould be inquired, will the proportion of trade obtained, beyond what ſhe would enjoy, if ſhe had loſt her authority over theſe diſtant provinces, or if their trade was free,

pay

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pay the expence of arming thus in times of peace, and of employing ſuch a multitude of revenue officers to guard extenſive coaſts? but more eſpecially, will it indemnify her for all the commercial wars, in which ſhe may be engaged to ſupport her trade?

Theſe are queſtions proper to be reſolved; and her beſt politicians think, that ſhe would be richer and more powerful without colonies. If their opinion is well founded, it is abſurd to expend ſo much upon their navy.

No country can boaſt greater advantages for trade than Spain; and even without a ſingle ſhip ſhe might be powerful and rich. Her wine, brandy, raiſins, figs, almonds, oranges, and nuts; her olives, oil, ſoap-aſhes and ſoap; her ſilks, linens and cottons, were they properly encouraged, with the fineſt wool, not omitting the *eſparto*, ſo valuable for cables, &c. her iron, ſuperior in quality to that of other countries, with tin, lead, and copper in abundance; to which might be added her ſurplus corn, were the land in proper tillage; all theſe productions of the ſoil, with the

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the manufactures, which, under a good government, muſt naturally find eſtabliſhment in Spain, would be ſuch a never-failing ſource of wealth, that ſhould any of the ſurrounding nations wiſh to diſturb her peace, ſhe could have no cauſe to fear, becauſe upon a well-peopled, compact, and united empire, no laſting impreſſion can be made. But ſuppoſing Spain, with ſuch advantages of ſoil and climate, producing ſuch a rich variety of articles for trade, without exhauſting colonies, armed for ſelf-defence, but not inſpiring either jealouſy or fear, ſhould confine her views wholly to domeſtic induſtry; which of all her neighbours could feel any inclination to moleſt her? In ſuch circumſtances muſt not every one of them rejoice in her proſperity?

War, among the rude inhabitants of infant countries, has only plunder for its object. This kind of depredation a well-diſciplined people have no need to dread; and among the civilized it has been long ſince forgotten. But the flames of war have been too often kindled among poliſhed nations, with a view to conqueſt; and projects of ambition

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tion have ſeldom failed to ſpring from wealth and power. Yet the more enlightened begin to ſee the folly of ſuch purſuits; and all, who are ſkilled in political arithmetic, are able to demonſtrate their inexpediency. Not to mention the expence of conqueſts, both in men and money, it is found by experience, that an empire, not merely when poſſeſſing diſtant provinces, but as it extends its limits beyond certain bounds, becomes proportionably weak. Whenever this truth ſhall be univerſally acknowledged, only one ſource of devaſtation will remain.

At preſent, the greateſt danger to the proſperity of Europe is from commercial wars. But when the colonies, ſtill ſubjugated to the European powers, ſhall caſt off the yoke, and the commercial nations, better acquainted with their true intereſt, ſhall duly cultivate the arts of peace, this ſource of contention will be dried up, and the only ſurviving conteſt will be that of induſtry; or, in the language of the eaſt, men will beat their ſwords into ploughſhares, and their ſpears into pruning-hooks.

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The benefits ariſing to mankind from this ſpecies of contention, are deſcribed by Heſiod, with ſuch beautiful ſimplicity, that I ſhall take the liberty to quote him.

A twofold envy, kindling twofold ſtrife,
Marks the viciſſitudes of human life.
On widely different principles they move;
Who hates the one, the other muſt approve.
Parent the one, of fierce protracted jars,
To man, predeſtined ſource of endleſs wars.
Night, fable goddeſs, gave the better birth,
By Saturn wooed in lonely caves of earth.
This ſpurs the lazy on to noble deeds,
While the bright flame juſt emulation feeds.
The idle neighbour of the growing great
Envies that ſource of wealth, which forms his ſtate.
Who plants, who ſows, with him in both to vie,
Shall find ſome mimic mortal ever nigh.
Pregnant with good this mild contention lives;
By her each meager artiſt eats and thrives:
Beggar on brother beggars keeps his eye,
And learns from them his humble ſuit to ply.
E'en poets, kindling at another's name,
Subdue their hunger by purſuit of fame.
Perſes, theſe precepts, which my lines impart,
Grave on the living tablet of thine heart.
Nor let that worſe ambition fire thy mind,
To join the mad purſuits of mad mankind:
To whom enough from Ceres golden ſtore
Earth yields for preſent day, but yields not more.

With

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With this contented, ſoothe thine anxious ſoul;
Nor riſk thine half by graſping at the whole.
View foreign riches with indifferent eyes,
Toil is the ways and means of rich ſupplies.

HESIOD'S WORKS AND DAYS.

As we returned from the caraca, on the cauſeway, a little above the level of the ſea, and afterwards in the higheſt part of the city, I obſerved a porous kind of rock, compoſed of flinty gravel, and broken ſhells, united by a cement, ſuch as was ſufficient to connect, but not to fill up the interſtices between them. This fact ſhould be treaſured in the memory, becauſe it accords with many others, and points out a remarkable event in the hiſtory of the earth, ſubſequent to the grand revolution occaſioned by the deluge.

As we returned to the city, I had the ſatisfaction of ſeeing a company of young gentlemen, who amuſed themſelves in the foſs of the ramparts, with their favourite diverſion of the balloon. Their ball, about eight inches in diameter, is made of leather, ſtrongly inflated by means of a machine, ſo as to be exceedingly elaſtic,

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after which it is ſmeared with clay. This they ſmite very obliquely againſt a wall, with their right hand; and to give it a greater momentum, as well as to protect the fiſt, the hand is incloſed in a wooden caſe, in which are many wide and deep furrows, croſſing at right angles, ſo as to leave a correſponding number of blunt points. The antagoniſts, at the diſtance of about fourſcore yards, receive the balloon as it rebounds, and before it falls, one of them drives it back again, varying the angle within a given ſpace, ſo as beſt to elude the attention of his opponents. This game, a ſpecies of fives, yet more elegant than ours, requires much ſtrength and good addreſs.

In the evening I went to ſee the theatre. It is large, elegant, and commodious; but as plays would not accord with the ſolemnity of Lent, they compromiſed the matter, and contented themſelves with an exhibition of ropedancers, tumblers, pantomimes, and puppet ſhows, with ſome moſt whimſical dances, in all which they had excellent performers. The dancers were in the

ſtile

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ſtile of lunatics, every one clothed in ſome antic dreſs, and the ſcene repreſented the court-yard of a madhouſe. They began with country dances, then ſuddenly they changed to the cotillion, the allemand, the galliego, and the fandango, paſſing with quick tranſitions from one to the other, and concluding with a rich variety of figures.

As it was Lent I heard many ſermons, but not one, which to me appeared intereſting. The moſt poliſhed orators confine themſelves to churches; but as it is found uſeful to have ſome, who can adapt themſelves to the underſtandings and feelings of the vulgar, many preachers are appointed to harangue the multitude aſſembled in the market place, and this they do with a vehemence of voice and geſture ſuited to their congregations. I obſerved often three or four of theſe engaged at the ſame time, yet keeping ſuch a proper diſtance as not to interfere.

One Wedneſday evening, I went to the Franciſcans to hear a penitential ſermon delivered by a father of that ſociety, who was famous for his diſcourſes. This being

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finiſhed, all the lights were extinguiſhed, and inſtantly the ſcourges were applied. We could readily diſtinguiſh a difference in the ſound, according as the part ſubjected to diſcipline was more or leſs covered with elaſtic muſcles, and in proportion to the degree of energy with which it was applied; but moderation was the prevailing ſentiment, and many ſcarcely let the left hand know what the right hand did. How much more fervent is the zeal of Catalans, who ſeem as if the ſcourge drew blood at every ſtroke! Here not a voice was to be heard; whereas at Barcelona the people uttered not only groans and howlings, but a mixture between both more horrible than either.

At times when the market place was not occupied by orators, the ſcribes took poſſeſſion of it with their benches, at which they ſat with pen, ink, and paper, to write and read letters of all ſorts, and to execute every kind of deed. The common price of a letter is eight quartos, or two pence farthing; and although this ſum is trifling in itſelf, yet, conſidering the

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number of illiterate people, who conſtantly employ them, they contrive to make out a comfortable maintenance.

Before I left Cadiz, I had the ſatisfaction of being witneſs to the ceremonies attending a funeral. After the phyſicians have turned their back upon a patient, nothing remains for him but confeſſion, abſolution, the euchariſt, extreme unction, death; and no ſooner is the laſt event announced, than all the friends of the deceaſed aſſemble, *dar la peſame*, that is, to condole with the afflicted widow, who, clothed in mourning, and ſtretched upon a bed, yet ſcarcely viſible for want of light, receives their compliments, and in a low voice ſpeaks to each of them. As it is ſuppoſed that no one in the family of the deceaſed can pay attention to the wants of nature, ſome friend takes care to ſend in a dinner ready dreſſed, with plenty of every thing the ſeaſon can produce. When the viſitors retire, the widow, ſon, father, brothers, uncles, couſins, and relations, each by name, unite in a meſſage of invitation to all the friends of the deceaſed, requeſting their

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attendance when the body ſhall be carried, the day following, to the grave, and at the ſervice to be performed the day after the interment for the repoſe of the departed ſoul.

In obedience to this ſummons, they aſſemble at the houſe of the deceaſed, and walk in proceſſion to the church, where the corpſe is placed during the ſervice before the altar, with the face uncovered, and the hands uplifted, as repreſented on our ancient monuments, with this difference, that the deceaſed has a crucifix between his hands. After the funeral ſervice, the neareſt relatives aſſemble in the veſtry, when all their acquaintance pay their reſpects, each by bowing to them, as he paſſes ſilently before them. This finiſhed, they return in ſolemn proceſſion to the houſe, where the ſalutation, with the ſame ſilence, is repeated.

If, as in the caſe of the gentleman whoſe obſequies I attended, the deceaſed was a perſon of condition, on the day ſucceeding the interment, the church is hung with mourning, all light is excluded, excepting

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that of numerous wax tapers, a funeral pile is erected, and all the relatives aſſemble round it to attend the ſervice of the maſs for the ſoul of the deceaſed. On the loſs of a huſband, the diſconſolate widow is under obligation to abſtain ſix months from all public amuſements; but the widower is acquitted for a few days abſtinence from theſe.

Few places are more healthy than Cadiz. Yet when the ſolano, or ſouth wind, blows, which comes to them over the ſcorching plains of Africa having only the intervention of a ſtrait, all the paſſions are inflamed, and during its prevalence, the inhabitants, who are moſt irritable, commit every ſpecies of exceſs.

For the pleaſures of ſocial intercourſe, I did not meet with any city more agreeable than this. As all nations are here aſſembled within narrow limits, by their mutual intercourſe they ſoften each others manners; and as, notwithſtanding the late ſhock, commerce flouriſhes in a degree, with its never failing attendants, wealth and hoſpitality; a ſtranger may paſs away his time with

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with the higheſt ſatisfaction to himſelf. For my part, excepting the vice-conſul Mr. Duff, and the imperial conſul Count de Greppi, I chiefly aſſociated with Spaniards. Among theſe the principal was Don Antonio Ulloa, the well known companion of D. George Juan, to whom I had been particularly recommended. I found him perfectly the philoſopher, ſenſible and well informed, lively in his converſation, free and eaſy in his manners. Having obſerved at his door two ſoldiers mounting guard, I expected ſome pride of appearance, but I met with nothing like it. This great man, diminutive in ſtature, remarkably thin and bowed down with age, clad like a peaſant, and ſurrounded by his numerous family of children, with the youngeſt about two years old, playing on his knee, was ſitting to receive morning viſitors, in a room, the dimenſions and furniture of which, for a few moments, diverted my attention from himſelf, the chief object of veneration. The room was twenty feet long by fourteen wide, and leſs than eight feet high. In this I

ſaw

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ſaw diſperſed confuſedly, chairs, tables, trunks, boxes, books, and papers, a bed, a preſs, umbrellas, clothes, carpenters tools, mathematical inſtruments, a barometer, a clock, guns, pictures, looking-glaſſes, foſſils, minerals, and ſhells, his kettle, baſons, broken jugs, American antiquities, money, and a curious mummy from the Canary iſlands, or at leaſt its trunk with the head and arms, for having been the common play-thing of his children, they had amuſed themſelves with drawing its teeth, and breaking off its limbs.

Among the extraneous foſſils, he ſhewed me a variety of ſea-ſhells, collected by himſelf near the ſummits of the higheſt mountains in America, ſome on the ſurface, but many bedded in the limeſtone rock. When I went to take my leave of him, on quitting Cadiz, he preſented me with his Natural Hiſtory of South America, a work highly deſerving to be tranſlated.

As uſual, before I left the city, I inquired into the value of proviſions, and found here, as in other cities, one contractor, who ſupplies the carcaſes at a ſtipulated price, making

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making his contract for twelve months. Theſe the magiſtrates ſell to the butchers, taking a profit for the city, and fixing the retail prices to the conſumer. To avoid unuſual fractions of a penny, I ſhall give theſe in Spaniſh *quartos*, of which eight are equal to two pence farthing.

Beef ſells for fifteen quartos the pound of ſixteen ounces; veal for ſixteen; mutton twenty-one; hog's lard twenty-four; bread ſeven. Wheat is forty-ſeven reals the fanega, or five and ten pence nearly for a Wincheſter buſhel.

The pay of a labourer is ſix reals, or ſomething more than fourteen pence a day; but artiſans require double. Merchants reckon one hundred and eight *varas* to be equal to one hundred yards; but in reality four hundred and five varas make three hundred and ſeventy-one yards. The feet and inches bear the ſame proportion.

Five fanegas of corn are reckoned in trade to correſpond with eight Wincheſter buſhels, but the proportion is ſixteen to twenty five.

Eight

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Eight arrobas of wine make twenty-five gallons.

One hundred and four Spaniſh pounds are equal to one hundred and twelve Engliſh, at leaſt in the rough calculations of a merchant.

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